

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

M A G A Z I N E



UNCOMMON VALOR
WAS A COMMON
VIRTUE"—

*Adm. Nimitz said
of Iwo Jima*



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COVER-The statue of the Flag-raising on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima has come to symbolize Marine valor. Forty years ago this month the five-week campaign on Iwo began and "uncommon valor became a common virtue." Twenty-two Marines and five Navy men were awarded the Medal of Honor for valor on Iwo. The Marine memorial by Felix de Weldon was based on Joe Rosenthal's Pulitzer Prize-winning photo. Story of Iwo begins on page 32.



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- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live

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John L. Smith
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Editor
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Production & Design
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ADVERTISING DIRECTORS

PABCO REPRESENTATIVES,
9 E. 41st St., New York, N.Y. 10017.
Advertising Representative:
PABCO REPRESENTATIVES,
405 N. Wabash, Suite 2108,
Chicago, Illinois 60601

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATION

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Fight Erosion of Vets' Benefits



By Billy Ray Cameron
VFW Commander-in-Chief

THE LATEST MOVE IN THE continuing White House campaign to use veterans as whipping-boys for the federal deficit has escalated in the form of a means test for VA care for veterans under 65 who do not have service connected disabilities.

Discussed last month in this space was the threat to medical care in VA hospitals for veterans 65 or older regardless of financial need and the hardship this would create for World War I, World War II and Korean War veterans and ultimately some of those who served in the Vietnam War.

Where will the next blow of the budget-wielder's axe fall? Will it strike out against disability compensation, freezing it and taxing it as income, or will it be against the VA by contracting out work performed at VA hospitals, even health care. Will VA employees' pay be cut? All of these and more are possibilities.

The means test provision is contained in Section 401 of PL 96-330 enacted in 1980 and Section 401 is to be implemented by the VA.

Before PL 96-330 was adopted, the VA was required to accept a non-service connected veteran's sworn statement of inability to pay for medical care in a private hospital. This was sufficient evidence of the veteran's financial situation. Full disclosure was not required.

Putting Section 401 into effect will

require the VA to take into consideration on a case-by-case basis the financial resources of veterans seeking admission to a VA hospital or nursing home. Government estimates are that 85% of America's 28 million veterans are under 65.

Included as assets in this rigorous investigation will be any health insurance provided by private companies and Medicare and CHAMPUS entitlements that would normally be paid to private hospitals.

Non-service connected veterans

This cartoon appeared originally in *Foreign Service*, April, 1933, predecessor of *VFW Magazine*.



will be told that if their assets—health insurance included—are above a certain level they will have to pay for any examination or treatment. Nor will they be given any additional care as eligible veterans if it is found that they can pay for care in a non-VA facility.

To be considered will be all of a veteran's gross annual income and assets that can be converted readily into cash. Gross annual income is defined as the estimated total of all resources. This includes but is not

limited to wages, salaries, fees, commissions, bonuses, pensions, earnings other than wages, dividends, interest, annuities, retirement benefits, rents, gifts and public assistance. Not only all this, but any taxable income from a business, profession, farm and money earned by a spouse or dependents will be included. Personal property or real estate will not be considered.

The VA has developed a formula for payment. If a veteran and spouse have a gross income of less than \$15,000, the veteran is presumed to be unable to pay for the care. A veteran whose family resources are from \$15,001 to \$20,000 would be eligible for care if the cost exceeds 6% of the resources. For a veteran with resources of \$20,001 to \$25,000, medical expenses would have to be more than 7%. The next step is from \$25,001 to \$30,000 and the cost above 8%.

A veteran with resources of more than \$30,000 would qualify only if the cost of care would absorb more than 10% of the family's resources.

If a veteran is examined to determine the need for medical care and then is denied it at the VA hospital because it is decided he or she can pay for it, the veteran will be charged for the mandatory medical examination and all other diagnostic tests and procedures.

The inclusion of private health insurance, CHAMPUS and Medicare coverage as a measure of ability to pay for VA care is sure to result in denial of care to many moderate and low income veterans. Ultimately their meager resources will be exhausted since their insurance usually will not cover the actual cost.

continued on page 9

VETSGRAM

LEGISLATIVE

Non-Service Connected - Deficit Reduction at the Expense of the Deserving: (This was written by Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.)

It happens every year. The suggestion arises that perhaps our veteran population can do more than its share of bullet-biting in order to bring the nation's budget back to reality.

Somehow, someone equates veterans' benefits with welfare and it happens. Now, with stimulation from the Grace Commission and the Office of Management and Budget, this absurdity has arisen stronger than ever, supported by those looking for quick answers to deficit reduction. However, they will find that quick answers are not necessarily the most logical and that opposition is massive.

It would be difficult to find anyone who doesn't agree that the nation's soon-to-be trillion-dollar deficit must be slashed. The Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Congress, and our veterans and their families recognize and agree that the VA must share in this responsibility, and we will continue to do so. The record shows that the VA has accepted cuts, especially over the last four years.

In Fiscal Year 1981, the Committee was instructed to reduce budget outlays by \$400 million. As a result of, among other things, reduced and delayed COLAs and limitations on the presumption of ability to defray medical expenses, we saved \$493 million.

In FY 1982, total reconciliation savings reached \$446 million; in FY 1983, \$602 million; in FY 1984, \$840 million; and in FY 1985 reconciliation savings in budget outlays will amount to \$1.69 billion.

We have made cuts in each area of veterans' benefits and services, including health care, and we will continue to share in the responsibility of balancing the books. But not by eliminating deserving veterans from the health care delivery system. We are going to protect the veterans' health care program.

To curtail severely the health care eligibility of non-service connected veterans who use VA medical facilities, a proposal now being seriously bandied about by the Administration is a misguided and dangerous proposal. Employing a twist to an old adage—it's cutting off your nose to spite your nose.

What is really hiding in this wooden horse that is offered as the beginning of the great cure for deficit ills?

Some veterans could no longer receive necessary medical treatment. Medicare costs would rise dramatically due to increased usage of private-sector

health care by veterans over age 65. This alone could defeat the savings objective toward which these cuts are geared.

The VA hospital system would shut down. According to the VA, veterans receiving treatment for service-connected disabilities and conditions comprise approximately a third of its patients. There simply would not be enough veterans to keep the system going.

It could be a threat to national security. The VA medical system would no longer be a back-up for medical care for the Department of Defense in the event of a major conflict. We would be sending a strong and clear message to our service personnel as well as potential new recruits that, though we may make commitments regarding their pay, their education and their medical care, we can renege at any moment.

Take a closer look at who would be eliminated from medical care eligibility should present proposals be implemented.

Consider, for example, an individual who served in a theater of operations during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He sprang from a landing craft into choppy waters off the coast of Normandy over 40 years ago, making his way first to an exposed beach, then to the bluffs, all through a hail of smoke and gunfire that dropped those he had spoken with only moments earlier. He was one of the fortunate—he survived. In fact, he received no physical wounds and disabilities as a result of his military service. He was decorated and received an honorable discharge. Now he is past 65, in bad health and seeks medical treatment from the VA because he cannot afford private health insurance.

To eliminate assistance to this individual because he is tagged "non-service connected" is wrong.

I also object to the use of the word "free" in reference to health care for our veterans. You've heard and seen it overused in recent press accounts that veterans are eligible for "free" medical treatment from the VA at age 65. It's a four-letter word to taxpayers that has no business being associated with the commitment we made to our service personnel and our veterans.

The complete truth is that veterans are eligible for medical treatment at age 65 without regard to financial need and on a space available basis.

Anyone who objects to, for example, the aforementioned veteran of D-Day receiving medical treatment from a health care system designed specifically for that purpose should perhaps examine his own values. The expenses were paid long ago.

Any attempt to disregard or crush his right to the health services he has earned many times over is morally wrong.

It will not work, nor should it be considered.

In the coming months, we have two major objectives. We must fight to protect and to maintain current services.

Our only other consideration should be the level of increase in health care necessary to meet the commitment we made to our veterans, many of whom are now 65 and older.

If this nation is truly concerned about its future and proud of its past and if we are to be judged by the manner in which we treat our defenders, our direction in these considerations should require little thought.

SECURITY

Weinberger Lays It on Line: In a recent speech, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger set forth clearly what U.S. policy should be regarding commitment of U.S. forces to combat. His points generally support VFW Resolution 410 that calls for no more "no win" wars. Weinberger's remarks were aimed clearly at policymakers in the White House and Congress; at those in the Executive Branch who want to use combat troops to force open doors for diplomacy and those in Congress who pale at the thought.

Six major points were made.

First, the U.S. should not commit forces to combat overseas "unless the particular engagement or occasion is deemed vital to our national interest or that of our allies." Citing the case of Korea, he added that "emphatically does not mean that we should declare beforehand, as we did with Korea in 1950, that a particular area is outside our strategic perimeter."

Second, if the decision is made to put combat troops into a given situation, "we should do so wholeheartedly and with the clear intention of winning. If we are unwilling to commit the forces or resources necessary to achieve our objectives, we should not commit them at all."

Third, "if we do decide to commit forces to combat overseas, we should have clearly defined political and military objectives and we should know precisely how our forces can accomplish those clearly defined objectives."

Fourth, "conditions and objectives invariably change during the course of a conflict. When they do change, then so must our combat requirements. We must continuously keep as a beacon light before us the basic questions: 'Is this conflict in our national interest?' 'Does our national interest require us to fight, to use force of arms?' If the answers are yes, then we must win. If the answers are no, then we should not be in combat."

Fifth, before committing combat forces aboard, there must be a reasonable assurance of support by the American people, and Congress. "This support cannot be achieved unless we are candid in making clear the threats we face; the support cannot be

sustained without continuing and close consultation. We cannot fight a battle with Congress at home while asking our troops to win a war overseas or, as in the case of Vietnam, in effect asking our troops not to win, but just to be there."

Sixth, "finally, the commitment of U.S. forces to combat should be a last resort."

Weinberger also noted the change in warfare since the end of World War II—to a more subtle form of warfare "in which more often than not, the face of the enemy was masked" and "proxy powers and surrogate forces are aided and advised from afar." "Some conflicts occurred under the name of 'national liberation' but far more frequently ideology or religion provided the spark to the tinder," he continued.

"Our adversaries can also take advantage of our open society and our freedom of speech and opinion to use alarming rhetoric and disinformation to divide and disrupt our unity of purpose," he said.

"While they would never dare to allow such freedoms to their own people, they are quick to exploit ours by conducting simultaneous military and propaganda campaigns to achieve their ends. They realize that if they can divide our national will at home, it will not be necessary to defeat our forces aboard."

SERVICE

CDC Studies Health of Vietnam Veterans:

Lovelace Medical Foundation, an Albuquerque, N.M., research group, has been contracted by the Centers for Disease Control to give medical examinations to 10,000 Vietnam veterans who have completed long interviews by the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina. Examinations will begin in March and continue through November, 1987. Examinations, transportation to and from Albuquerque, food, lodging and \$300 for the three-day exams will be furnished the veterans.

* * *

OPM Supports Resolution 617 on Vets' Preference:

Responding to Resolution 617 adopted at the 85th National Convention, the Office of Personnel Management assures VFW it will continue to oppose any effort to reduce veterans' preference. OPM Director Devine "has actively pursued positive improvements in veterans' employment matters."

* * *

GI Insurance Dividend:

The 3.4 million veterans who have kept their GI life insurance will share in an annual dividend this year totalling \$798.8 million, the VA has announced. No application is necessary, for policyholders will receive the dividend on each policy's anniversary date. Amounts, differing in each type of policy, will range from \$73 to \$469.

Senator Lauds VFW

The VFW, especially the Washington Office legislative staff — Don Schwab, Jim McGill and Bob Jones — played a vital role in the passing of Veterans' Dioxin and Radiation Exposure Compensation Standings Act, Veterans' Health Care Act of 1984 and Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 1984, and I trust that during the 99th Congress we will continue to work in the same spirit of cooperation. I know that we shall not agree on all the issues, but let's keep the lines of communication open. — *Sen. Alan K. Simpson, Chairman, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20510.*

Seabees Pleased

Thank you much for the Seabee cover and article in the May issue and the follow-up article in the December issue. Both were featured at our annual "We Will Always

Remember the 7th of December" area Seabees' reunion breakfast held here Dec. 8. Author Charles P. Clarke nicely combined the Seabees' past with the present, which is exactly what we try to do at our annual get-togethers. Well done and very much appreciated. — *Harry V. Klein, Life Member, 216 Market St., Sunbury, Pa 17801.*

Radiation Victim?

I am seeking wives and family members of those who served aboard LST 540, Flotilla 7, during the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. My reason is the unexplained circumstances of the death of my father, Eugene J. Platoni, who was on LST 540, of angioimmunoblastic lymphoma on Feb. 28, 1983. I am attempting to establish an incidence and percentage of cases of cancer and other traumatic medical conditions among crewmembers of this flotilla,

their children and grandchildren. My theory is that his death may have been related to radiation exposure. My purpose is not to make a claim against the government. — *Capt. Kathy Platoni, DeWitt Army Community Hospital, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060.*

Vigil of Honor

On Veterans Day weekend, I had the honor of standing the vigil (at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial) as a volunteer from Pittsburgh, Pa. The vigil, started by Vietnam veterans on Christmas Eve 1982, is stood 24 hours-a-day non-stop.

No words can be written or said to describe the wall with the names of over 58,000 killed and missing in action in Vietnam, in the order in which they were taken from us, and the statue of three combat veterans

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NATIONAL HOME

Q—How many children are there? How old are they? Why isn't the Home filled?

A—For the past two or three years, an average of 92 children have been served on the campus. This does not include the dozen or more who are being supported in their college studies. This number also does not include the 19 parents receiving services from the staff. Typically the population is one-third of elementary age, one-third of middle school (grades 6-8) age and one-third of high school age, roughly divided equally between girls and boys on campus.

One reason for vacancies in recent years is a nationwide trend toward keeping children in their home communities. All attempts are made to find adequate living arrangements for youngsters who need assistance. Programs of foster care and adoption

have developed across the country to meet the needs of young people.

Another reason is that many children and families who would be eligible for the Home's services are not aware of the program. Some members across the country believe the National Home is a place for retired veterans. A more energetic promotion of the National Home as a support system for families in crisis is needed.

Q—Can a child come to the Home even if his father wasn't a member of the VFW?

A—The four categories of eligibility for admission to the Home are ranked in priority order.

First priority is given to a youngster whose father is or was a VFW member and he becomes deceased or disabled. This youngster then becomes the Home's highest priority. Next in line

come youngsters whose father is or was a member of the VFW or whose mother is a member of the Auxiliary. If that parent becomes deceased or disabled, the youngster is eligible to be admitted. Third priority for admission is the youngster who is under the legal guardianship of a grandparent who is a member of the VFW or the Auxiliary. The final category is that of a child being raised in a chaotic home. Again, a parent must be a member of the VFW or Ladies Auxiliary.

Q—Are lenders required to notify the VA if a veteran defaults on a VA guaranteed loan?

A—Yes. Notice must be forwarded to the VA within 45 days after a debtor is in default for a period of 60 days from the date of the first uncured default.

Implementation of Section 401 will keep the vast majority of non-service connected veterans from using VA facilities. This is a threat to this nation's largest health care system itself. Many needy veterans will not apply, though eligible, for fear of rejection, nor will others who might qualify. They will stay away lest they be charged for expensive examinations only to be turned down.

The VFW strongly reaffirms its conviction that this nation owes a debt to all veterans who served honorably in time of need. Whether or not an injury or disability was sustained during service should not be the criterion for repayment of that debt. What is more many veterans, injured in the nation's service, have never even put in a VA claim.

Besides fighting the deficit, the VA gives two other reasons for the means test. One is a desire to reduce its workload for FY 1986, beginning Oct. 1. The other is to keep the Office of Management and Budget from dictating details of the means test. For example, one would be checking tax returns of veterans applying for medical benefits.

This sorry state of affairs recalls the crisis of March, 1933, when veterans' benefits came under fire at the height of the Great Depression.

The alarming similarity between the situation then and now is illustrated by this excerpt from the April, 1933, issue of Foreign Service, predecessor of VFW Magazine:

"In an emergency economy bill designed to reduce federal expenditures by an amount variously estimated between \$385 million and \$500 million, the Congress of the United States on March 15 enacted a measure that repeals and reduces certain veteran benefits that were placed on the statutes during the past 15 years.

"Although this same bill authorizes a salary reduction for all federal employees, the bulk of the appropriations will be taken from the Veterans Administration."

Write your Representative and Senators telling them the VFW will not tolerate any tampering with veterans' benefits and will work vigorously to prevent any erosion of them. ■

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Convention

S P E C I A L

COME TO

Dallas

August may seem like a long way off in the month of February, but time has a way of flying and before you know it the 86th National Convention will be here.

This then is the time to begin planning to attend the National Convention being held this year in Dallas from Aug. 16 to 23.

To make sure you will be able to register early and save \$2 on the regular registration fee, just fill out the accompanying coupon and send it in.

One more thing. The 1977 National Convention in Minneapolis voted to require each Post to register at least one delegate to each National Convention, so in case you cannot get there, make sure your Post is registered anyway.

Dallas has been a frequent site of VFW National Conventions. They have been held in that booming and growing Texas metropolis since World War II in 1956, 1971 and 1978.

Of course, everyone who has ever been to a VFW National Convention is familiar with the general format. There is the annual Memorial Service at which deceased veterans are remembered. A memorial address is delivered by a major figure in the religious world. Then the next day, Monday, the Convention gets under-

way with the Joint Opening Session held with Ladies Auxiliary because that organization meets at the same time as the VFW. A prominent personage in the nation's political or military life is the keynoter. In the evening at the Distinguished Guests Banquet the principal speaker is the one who has been selected for the VFW's highest award, the Dwight David Eisenhower Distinguished Service Medal.

Other highlights are the annual Military Parade and the March of Champions, a drum and bugle corps competition attracting upwards of 20,000 young persons.

Throughout the Convention sessions, awards for service to the nation and its veterans will be presented to a wide variety of persons from many walks of life, as well as VFW members who have achieved much for the organization on a variety of levels.

Probably in what is most important to the organization, Convention business will be handled on the floor as delegates vote to adopt or reject the large number of resolutions that have been introduced from Departments

and by National Officers.

These resolutions cover a broad spectrum of veterans' concerns and provide the general framework for the VFW's action on issues for the coming year. After the Convention, committees meet to produce Priority Goals based on the resolutions.

Because of the large number to come before the Convention, proposed resolutions are referred to appropriate committees during the Convention or immediately before the formal opening. The committees study them, revise the language somewhat, combine some in order to eliminate repetition and decide whether to recommend passage or rejection.

Quite often, however, delegates move that the committees' recommendations be set aside and some resolutions be discussed on the floor. This is done, of course, with a careful regard for the rules of parliamentary procedures and each delegate who wants to join the argument is given the chance.

For as all National Officers realize, the VFW is a grassroots organization and guidance comes from individual members.

National Officers are aware of this fundamental rule of the organization because each of them began his VFW career on the Post level.

Another important issue to come before National Conventions is any change in the National By-Laws or Manual of Procedure. Last year, suggested changes to the VFW Constitution and Congressional Charter were offered, although this rarely happens.

One major bone of contention that

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Register in Advance for the 1985 Convention

(Make checks or money orders payable to VFW 86th National Convention)

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Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion
300 Reunion Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207

Enclosed is my ☐ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$6. Register my name or the name and number of our VFW Post for representation at the 86th National Convention in Dallas, Texas, Aug. 16-23, 1985. Do not enclose your delegate or alternate credentials with this form. (Please type or print name and address.)

Name VFW Post State

Address

City and State Zip

\$10,000 Given by VFW For Salute II

The only veterans' organization to contribute financially to the National Salute II to Vietnam Veterans over the Veterans Day weekend was the VFW.

The \$10,000 provided by this organization originally was for the cost of the entertainment by Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Nov. 10, the day before the Veterans Day dedication of the statue of three American Fightingmen facing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Highlight of this ceremony was the appearance of Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron as a principal speaker.

Because of additional expenses, George Sullivan, chairman of the committee, decided he would have to mortgage his house to pay the \$80,000 in bills incurred by the weekend program.

Instead of accepting the \$10,000 the VFW contributed, Valli turned over the money to help the committee defray its expenses. An additional \$5,000 raised during the weekend also went to the committee.

Thurmond Chosen for VFW Award

Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.), a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, will receive the VFW's highest honor, the Congressional Award at the conclusion of the annual Mid-Winter Conference in Washington.

Sen. Thurmond was selected as the 1985 recipient for his "outstanding service to the nation," said Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron in announcing the South Carolinian for the award.

Presentation will be made at the Congressional Dinner the evening of March 12 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

A World War II paratrooper, Sen. Thurmond is a member of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, chairman of Senate Judiciary Committee

and as a member of the Senate Armed Forces Committee, he chairs the Military Construction Subcommittee. He also is president pro tem of the Senate.

"No finer man could be chosen for this honor than Sen. Thurmond," said Cameron. "He exemplifies the spirit of the American veteran and has always been first and foremost in support of the veteran and the defense of our beloved nation."

Navy AFEM For Grenada

The Navy has issued a list of ships and units eligible for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for the 1983 Grenada operation. The medal is one for which VFW membership is authorized.

Except where noted, the dates of Grenada participation are from Oct. 24 to Nov. 2.

USS Barnstable County (LST 1197), USS Caron (DD 970), USS Fort Snelling (LSD 30), USS Guam (LPH 9), USS Independence (CV 62), CVW 6, VF 14, VF 32, VA 176, VA 15, VA 87, VA 28, VAW 122, HS 15 and VAQ 131, USS Manitowoc (LST 1180), USS Moosbrugger (DD 980), HSL 34 Det. 6, USS Richmond K. Turner (CG 20), USS Trenton (LPD 14), COMSECONDFLT (CJTf 120, COMCRUDESGRU 8 (CTG 20.5, COMDESRON 32, COMPHIBRON 4 (CTF 124) (EMB GUAM), NAV-BEACHGRU 2 Det. A, ACB 2 Det., ACU 2 Det., BMU 2 Det., SEAL Team 4 Platoon, SDV Team 2, SPECBOATRON 2 Det. and TACRON 22 Det.

From Nov. 18 to Nov. 21, USS Aquila (PHM 4), USS Aubrey Fitch (FFG 34) and USS Taurus (PHM 3).

Others and dates are USS Briscoe (DD 977), HSL 34 Det. 2 (LAMPS), Nov. 8 to Nov. 13; USS Caloosahatchee (A) 98, Nov. 2 to Nov. 4; USS Clifton Sprague (FFG 16), Oct. 23 to Nov. 18; USNS Neosho (TAO 143) (military personnel only), Oct. 24 to Nov. 18; USS Portsmouth (SSN 707, Oct. 24 to 29; USS Recovery (ARS 43), Oct. 30 to Nov. 4; USS Saipan (LHA 2), Nov. 1 to

7; USS Sampson (DDG 10), Nov. 6 to 7; USS Samuel E. Morison (FFG 13), Nov. 2 to 6; USS Silversides (SSN 679), Oct. 24 to Nov. 3; USS Spadefish (SSN 668), Oct. 24 to Nov. 9; USS Suribachi (AE 21), Oct. 29 to Nov. 6; USS Taurus (PHM 3), Nov. 18 to Nov. 21; COMDESRON 24 (CTU 28.1.1), Nov. 1 to 13.

Squadrons conducting flights in direct support of Urgent Fury, dates from Oct. 23 to Nov. 21, are VP 10, 16 and 23; VRC 40 and VR 56, 58 and 59, but only aircrews that entered the area of operations are eligible.

In addition, eligibility for the medal and hence VFW membership has been extended to participating personnel who actually entered the area of operations from the following commands:

Caribbean Peace Force—U.S. personnel who served as adviser or liaison officers with Headquarters of Joint Task Force 120 and 123, U.S. Forces Orenda, U.S. Atlantic Command, U.S. Forces Caribbean Disaster Area Survey and Security Assistance Control Teams, USDAO and USMLO Bridgetown, Barbados, and Joint Communication Support Element.

New VA Aide

VA Administrator Harry N. Walters has named Ralph M. Crossen as special assistant for Veterans Service Organization Coordination.

Crossen's primary responsibilities will be to insure communication and coordination between the VA and the major veterans' organizations in mutual efforts to provide service and benefits to those who served in the nation's Armed Forces.

A Marine combat veteran of the Vietnam War, Crossen has been a staff assistant to the Administrator since 1982, specializing in handling veteran-related problems that couldn't be resolved through normal agency channels. He replaces Sgt. Maj. Samuel J. Walsh. Crossen served in the Marine Corps from 1965 to 1969, two of those years in Vietnam.

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VA Nursing Scholarships

The VA has announced the details of its \$3.7 million Health Professional Scholarship Program for the 1985-86 school year for nursing students seeking bachelor's or master's degrees on a pay-back-in-service basis.

The VA scholarships provide tuition, educational expenses and a monthly stipend for participants who agree to serve a minimum of two years as fulltime registered nurses in one of VA's 172 medical facilities.

Awards are made to third- and fourth-year baccalaureate nursing students and to master's degree candidates in gerontology, medical/surgical, adult psychiatric/mental health, rehabilitation and nursing service administration, all needed by the VA.

Information about the program is available from the VA Health Professional Scholarship Program, Office of Academic Affairs, DM&S (14N), 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20420. Requests for an application package may be made to the Scholarship Program Office between Jan. 7 and May 10, 1985. Completed applications must be received by the Scholarship Program Office no later than June 3, 1985.

Vietnam Vets' Medal

Director of the U.S. Mint, Donna Pope, advises that the deadline for designs for the Vietnam Veterans National Medal is Feb. 28.

The medal was authorized by a bill in Congress and signed by President Reagan last Oct. 30.

Medal's theme is to honor the courage and dedication of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War.

Persons interested in sending in designs may do so for either obverse or reverse sides. Cast in bronze, the medals will be approximately 1½ inches in diameter. Designs submitted should be a black and white pencil or ink drawing within an 8-inch circle,

mounted on illustration board 10 inches by 10 inches. The face should include the words, "Vietnam Veterans National Medal," and the reverse the inscription "By Act of Congress—1984."

Design submissions will not be returned and will become government property, nor will compensation be made for expenses incurred in their preparation.

Entries should be mailed to Vietnam Veterans National Medal, United States Mint, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C. 20220.

Army Historical Books

The U.S. Army Center of Military History's fall-winter catalogue lists a large number of books dealing with the Army's role in the Vietnam War, the Korean War and World War II.

Volumes covering the last two are reprints of works published shortly after the fighting ended. Many cover individual actions, while others deal with the broad scope of campaigns in all theaters.

Vietnam War's treatment is a part of a multi-volume series ranging from combat operations to press relations. When completed, it will reach 19 works.

Still available are several books relating to the American Revolution. They were begun in connection with the Bicentennial.

Catalogues are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. In addition, GPO bookstores are located in all major cities.

VVLP's Record

Last September, the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program's federal funding ran out, but "the program remains strong, self-sufficient and growing every day," says Thomas W. Pauken, director of ACTION, the federal agency that provided much of VVLP's government money.

Pauken, a Vietnam veteran and originator of VVLP, is distributing highlights of a more than 200-page report on VVLP's first three years.

In 41 states, 47 non-profit corporations have been formed and more than 1,000 Vietnam veterans served in them as unpaid volunteers and paid project directors.

Still growing is the network of 5,879 volunteers who have helped VVLP achieve its objectives and carry out projects. They have given 350,449 hours of unpaid time for a dollar value of nearly \$4 million. Add to this \$1.2 million in material donations and the total comes to \$5.2 million. This nearly equals the ACTION three-year grant.

Nearly 3,000 Vietnam veterans were enabled to find jobs, while 24,782 were given employment counselling.

Working with the Small Business Administration, VVLP helped Vietnam veterans obtain loans to operate their own businesses. The Atlanta SBA office reported \$12 million in small business loans for 10 months up to last Aug. 1.

Robins Museum

A \$9.5 million, 43-acre museum is being developed in three phases over a 10-year period at Robins Air Force Base at Warner Robins, Ga., a short distance south of Macon.

The first phase will feature displays of vintage aircraft, missiles and ground vehicles and more than 15 private collections of Air Force memorabilia and artifacts.

The second will consist of construction of a 35,000-square-foot building in the shape of military air insignia of U.S. forces. It will include a center for scientific and historical research.

Final phase, scheduled for completion in 1992, will include an additional 70,000 square feet of interior display space.

Nearly 40 separate military organizations comprise the Robins complex. One is the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center that provides logistics support to the entire U.S. Air Force.

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Veterans Administration Q & A

Q-I am a World War II veteran and would like to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Will I be eligible for burial and what arrangements will my family need to make?

A-Burial space in Arlington National Cemetery is limited. Eligibility is for those who have died on active duty; those retired for disability, or who have at least 20 years' active duty or

reserve service; honorably discharged veterans who have held certain high government positions; veterans discharged for 30% or more disability before Oct. 1, 1949; and veterans who have the nation's highest military decorations, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross or Navy Cross or the Purple Heart. Arrangements for burial are made through the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. 22211.

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GENERAL ORDERS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

1984-85 Series

General Orders No. 5

1. The following appointments are hereby announced: NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STAFF: Isidore DuBois, Post 1523, Putnam, Conn.; Joe Fox, Post 8950, W. Lanham Hills, Md.; Philip C. Schiffman, Post 8691, Washingtonville, N.Y.; Richard Zolzer, Post 2307, Lynbrook, N.Y.; Robert Eckert, Sr., Post 7466, Poestenkill, N.Y.; Philip Mascari, Post 8440, Bridgeport, N.Y.; Robert C. Betler, Post 5798, Angola, N.Y.; Arthur E. Koch, III, Post 6780, Dansville, N.Y.; Gilbert Moulton, Post 6433, Waterloo, N.Y.; Ronald Hook, Post 3477, Athens, Ohio; Charles Zattau, Post 3003, Findlay, Ohio; Charles Ray Horne, Post 1857, Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Floyd W. Rouser, Post 8861, Hollsopple, Pa.; ASSISTANT INSPECTORS GENERAL: John Moon, Post 2873, Grover Hill, Ohio; Robert K. Dudeck, Post 4876, Altus, Okla.; Louis Greco, Post 4653, Monaca, Pa.; and Vernon H. Shifflett, Post 9292, Elkton, Va.; NATIONAL AIDES-DE-CAMP, MEDAL OF HONOR CLASS: John R. Crews, Post 9265, Oklahoma City, Okla.

6 Post Commanders are reminded that a resolution adopted at the 85th National Convention prohibits VFW Posts from charging fees for military or other funeral services for veterans under any circumstances. The resolution directed that Posts found to be in deliberate violation of the resolution be disciplined or censured.

7. The location of the following Post has been changed: Post 1877 from Clearlake Oaks to Lucerne, Calif.

8. A certificate of charter evidencing consolidation has been issued to the following Post: Posts 5358 and 7570 consolidated as Post 7570, Harrison, Ohio.

9. The authorization of Charter to Post No. 5125, Gallatin, Tenn., is hereby rescinded, the Post never having been instituted.

10. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 116, Grand Blanc, Mich.; Post 2135, Peoria, Ariz.; Post 2249, Holbrook, Ariz.; Post 2357, Bouse, Ariz.; Post 2364, Pinetop, Ariz.; Post 3325, Kirkland, Ohio; Post 4180, Hudson, Fla.; Post 4445, Johnstown, Pa.; Post 4682, Danville, Ohio; Prattville, Ala.; Post 4729, Poplarville, Miss.; Post 6944, Shinnston, W. Va.; Post 7270, Crossville, Tenn.; Post 7346, Hazel Green, Wis.; Post 8481, St. Johns, Ariz.; Post 8667, Rio Rico, Ariz.; Post 8935, Varysburg, N.Y.; Post 9576, Byers-Strasburg, Colo.; Post 9687, Nashville, Tenn.; Post 9883, Spring Lake, N.C.; Post 9918, Clinton, Conn.; and Post 10034, Waterbury, Vt.

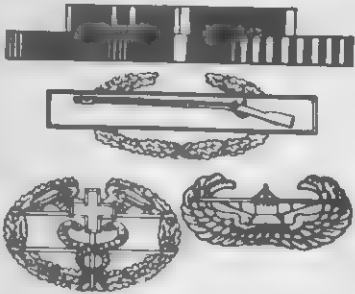
By Command of
BILLY RAY CAMERON
Commander-in-Chief

OFFICIAL:

Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

5 The 86th National Convention, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, will be held in Dallas, Texas, Aug. 16-23, 1985.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Army Good Conduct
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Asiatic-Pacific Campaign
<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Bronze Star
<input type="checkbox"/>	13. China Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Coast Guard Good Conduct
<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Distinguished Flying Cross
<input type="checkbox"/>	16. European-African-M.E. Campaign
<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Korean Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Marine Good Conduct
<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Navy Commendation
<input type="checkbox"/>	20. Navy Good Conduct
<input type="checkbox"/>	21. Navy & Marine Corp Medal
<input type="checkbox"/>	22. Navy Unit Commendation
<input type="checkbox"/>	23. Navy Presidential Unit Cit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	24. National Defense Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	25. Philippine Liberation
<input type="checkbox"/>	26. Philippine Presidential Unit Cit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	27. Presidential Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/>	28. Purple Heart
<input type="checkbox"/>	29. Rep. Korea Presidential Unit Cit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	30. Rep. Vietnam Campaign Year Bar
<input type="checkbox"/>	31. Silver Star
<input type="checkbox"/>	32. United Nations Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	33. Vietnam Press Unit Cit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	34. Vietnam Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	35. World War II Occupation
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Why We Need Vets' Job Programs

By Donald E. Shasteen

Korean or Vietnam Era veterans who want to participate in the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act, which has been extended to Sept. 1, have until Feb. 28 to act.

This program reimburses employers up to \$10,000 for half the starting wages for training or retraining these two groups of veterans, and it has been working well.

Up to last Nov. 1, up to \$74 million had been spent to help 18,000 such veterans.

Application must be made through the Job Service (the general name for state employment services) or the Veterans Administration.

More than 33,000 employers have been approved to take part in this emergency program. They have offered more than 76,000 job openings for veterans, and it is hoped that at least 30,000 veterans will be placed in the next nine months.

Most veterans without jobs are between 25 and 29, and their unemployment rate of about 10% is well above the national jobless rate.

These young persons are the hardest hit among Vietnam Era veterans. They comprise about 40,000 of the more than 300,000 men between 25 and 39 who are without work. The unemployment rate for all Vietnam Era veterans for 25 to 39 is about 6%.

Unquestionably, Reagan Administration policies have produced the economic recovery directly beneficial to Vietnam Era veterans, not to mention the rest of the nation's jobless.

Unemployment among these vet-

erans has dropped dramatically over the past year — almost by 100,000 — with commensurate reductions in the rate.

The hard fact remains, however, that the problem of young jobless veterans persists even though all age groups in the male veterans' population measured by the Labor Department continue to show significant decreases in unemployment.

Numbers, of course, do not tell the entire story. They do help measure the degree of success or failure, but they cannot capture the spirit and morale of the persons under discussion.

Nor do they reflect the kind of efforts being made continuously by veterans' organizations and the federal government to soften the impact of joblessness on those who served their country in military uniform.

Frankly this nation is not satisfied with the nagging and persistent joblessness among veterans. The Labor Department's task is to do something about it.

Jobs programs for veterans are needed because this nation will never turn its back on whatever number of veterans remain who need assistance to get back into the economic mainstream.

This nation is not satisfied with the joblessness among veterans

Because the Department of Labor was not satisfied with efforts already underway, a new special effort was announced on Veterans Day in conjunction with observances at the department.

It is called "Jobs for Veterans."

Its goal is to increase placements of veterans in jobs by 10% through the Job Service system reaching into approximately 2,500 local areas in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The Job Service will increase its placements of veterans by about 22,000 to a total of 240,000 under this initiative over a six-month period.

Key will be something I like to call the "quality connection." This is a reaching out for quality applicants to be placed in quality jobs. Each state is being asked to establish a Jobs for Veterans initiative to help meet this goal.

This added push in job placement activities for veterans will go a long way toward enhancing other job training efforts.

When the final figures are tabulated for the past fiscal year under the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC) program, about 30,000 Vietnam Era veterans are expected to be in jobs developed through this special effort. In fiscal 1983, the total was just over 24,000. Employers throughout the country are awakening to the benefits they can derive under TJTC by hiring economically disadvantaged Vietnam veterans and receiving substantial tax credits for doing so for the first two years. The first step for an eligible veteran is to get a voucher from his nearest Job Service office for presentation to a potential employer when seeking a job.

The Labor Department is doing much to help the jobless veteran. Through its training programs under the Job Training Partnership Act; through its Disabled Veterans Outreach Program in Job Services offices with 2,000 specialists; through Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers; through its Reemployment Rights programs for recently separated veterans; through its Veterans Affirmative Action requirements in federal contracts of \$10,000 or more, and through TJTC and Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act programs — the veteran does not lack for attention, care, assistance and results.

In the final analysis, as long as there is a veteran who needs help in finding or developing the means to make a living, the Department of Labor will be there to help.

It's the "quality connection" that counts.

About the Author

The writer is deputy assistant secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.



WHEN VA ADMINISTRATOR HARRY N. WALTERS SPOKE AT the first proficiency conference of the VFW National Veterans Service (NVS) Training Program for Department Service Officers in Kansas City Dec. 3, he brought a two-fold message.

The first was to commend them for their "attitude of excellence, professionalism, fairness and accuracy, dedication to serving the longterm needs of veterans, constant efforts to improve, to grow, to make our programs better. . . ."

The second was to review VA progress in a wide area of concern to veterans.

For one thing, the VA budget for the 1985 fiscal year is the biggest VA spending program in history, 4% above the current level, he said, calling it a "team victory."

Walters asserted the VA is doing more now in health care, care for older veterans, medical facility construction, readjustment counseling, medical and prosthetic research and in many benefit areas.

"With all you achievers and producers working together, I am confident we can continue this dynamic process," he continued.

"VA's medical research program is benefiting veterans and the lives of people everywhere in coronary bypass surgery, in the application of computer technology to prosthetic devices, in spinal cord regeneration, in muscle stimulation for the para-

DSOs Praised by Walters

lyzed and in scores of other projects.

"Working together, we are helping veterans concerned about possible Agent Orange exposure. We have treated thousands of veterans in our hospitals and outpatient clinics even though science has yet to link health problems other than chloracne with exposure to Agent Orange."

Walters said the VA's Vet Center program "to make personalized counseling available to thousands more Vietnam veterans" is being expanded.

Plus the VA, with the Labor Department, "is doing more for those who qualify for assistance from the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act."

A toll-free telephone service for former prisoners of war has been instituted with the aid of a blue rib-

bon advisory group so their needs can be handled quickly, he continued.

Additional examples of progress Walter cited were the recommendations coming from the VA's advisory committee on women veterans, lower interest rates on home loans, expansion or reopening of national cemeteries and plans for a major new cemetery in central Florida.

"Teamwork has been the most important ingredient in all these successes," he said. "Our victories have been team victories, and I believe you service officers have been at the heart of our team."

"In fact, for many veterans, you are the VA. You are often the first person they see."

"They rely on you to keep your commitments, your senses and your balance. Just as we [the VA] rely on you to practice the proper fundamentals, to have the will, to keep the faith while keeping sight of our basic mission."

"Working together as a team, we can make certain that we deliver the best possible medical care and compensation and benefits to the people who have kept us number one all these years."

Further, Walters said that teamwork between the VA and service officers can ensure effective operation of systems for the delivery of quality health care and non-medical benefits and delivery to veterans and their beneficiaries all the benefits



Department Service Officers and Washington Office staffers listen intently during a lecture at the third phase of their Proficiency Training Conference in Kansas City.

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has come before delegates for several years, only to be defeated, is a revision in membership eligibility rules that would admit ex-servicemen and women on the basis of the National Defense Service Medal. Principal objection has been that discharges do not indicate whether or not it was awarded for overseas service, the cornerstone of VFW membership eligibility.

Observers who expect wild and raucous behavior from VFW delegates often express surprise at their restrained, even staid, demeanor. It should not create such an unusual reaction, however, for delegates realize their responsibility is serious and they are working on behalf of all veterans. Of course, this does not mean they do not have a good time. They do, but pleasure is a by-product not the goal.

One of the principal Convention purposes is the nomination and election of new officers. Under the VFW's rotational system that allows less populous areas an equal role, the three chair officers are chosen on a regional basis, the West, South, East and Mid-West Departments joined together in conferences.

Thus Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, a Southerner, is expected to be succeeded by Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum, a Mid-Westerner. Moving up to Staum's office will be Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, a Westerner. This year much interest, therefore, will center in the election of an Easterner as Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

Other officers to be elected will be Quartermaster General, Judge Advocate General, Surgeon General and National Chaplain. The Adjutant General, National Chief of Staff, National Inspector General and Executive Director of the Washington Office are appointed by the Commander-in-Chief.

When the 86th National Convention ends, planning will begin immediately for the 87th National Convention to be held in Minneapolis.

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DSOs Praised

continued from page 20

they are entitled to.

Walters told the service officers he was optimistic about the future the Dec. 3 conference can create "because VFW Service Officers believe that veterans deserve the best; you have always given your very best."

Praising them, Walters said he believes "much of what the VA does for veterans is due to your good works."

"I believe the good you and those

L. Starbuck, director of the VA Department of Veterans Benefits; Dr. John A. Gronvall, VA deputy chief medical director; Paul T. Banai, director of the VA Department of Memorial Affairs; Frederico Juarbe, NVS director; Frank J. Conlon, NVS assistant director; Coopert T. Holt, executive director of the VFW Washington Office; Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., and several other VFW and VA representatives.



Dorothy L. Starbuck, retiring as director of the VA's Department of Veterans' Benefits, receives the VFW Certificate of Appreciation for her service to veterans. Looking on are Past Commander-in-Chief Robert Hansen, Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office, and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr. The presentation was made in Kansas City at the VFW National Veterans Service Phase III Proficiency Training Conference.

who work with you do for veterans can never be fully measured or understood except by your beneficiaries. . . .

"It must be very satisfying to know that what you do has such a profound effect on a veteran's ability to adjust, to be a productive citizen and to increase his or her potential for happiness over a lifetime."

The five-day session in Kansas City consisted of lectures and workshops dealing with a wide range of VA veterans' programs, alcohol and drug abuse, special monthly compensation, gunshot wounds, disability rating schedule, development of evidence for appeals purposes, medical eligibility, forensic medicine and NVS policy and procedure.

Among participants were Dorothy

During the first session of the five-day program, Miss Starbuck was presented with the VFW Certificate of Appreciation for her work on behalf of veterans. Joining in the presentation by Holt was Past Commander-in-Chief Robert Hansen, who took part in the workshops along with Dr. Turner Camp, VFW medical consultant.

This proficiency conference was the third phase of the training program that began last Sept. 10. The second will be held in Washington March 13-16 following the Mid-Winter Conference.

"The program is designed to increase the preparedness of Department Service Officers to assist veterans, their dependents and survivors," Juarbe said.

By Maj. Cal Blake

“IN THE SNOW AT CHIPYONG-NI, THE CHINESE THREW THEMSELVES against the 23rd Infantry in a frantic fury. They were beaten off in one of the great defense battles of history, by an outfit that killed 10 men for every man it lost,” wrote Harold H. Martin in the *Saturday Evening Post* in 1951.

The landscape around Chipyong-ni was peaceful, betraying little of the savage fighting which took place there nearly a third of a century earlier. Blanketed by a fresh layer of snow, the frozen earth did not show any scars of the combat that ravaged its face during the Korean War.

But men are different from the land. If men do not study and remember history, they are prone to repeat it, often with disastrous consequences. Men of arms learn much from their predecessors, and sometimes an event is of such consequence it demands they not only remember the act, but they pay homage to the participants.

So it was on Feb. 11, 1984. Soldiers and statesmen gathered at Chipyong-ni to honor the United Nations forces who defended an island of freedom in February, 1951. The stark stone monument, dedicated by the Republic of Korea in 1966, served as a reminder of the battle's significance. Sometimes it is referred to as the “Bastogne” of the Korean War.

It was fate that brought Col. Paul L. Freeman and his 23rd Regimental Combat Team to Chipyong-ni in February, 1951, but fate played a far lesser role in the victory they ultimately achieved.

Landing at Pusan in early August of 1950, the unit, part of the 2nd Infantry Division, was quickly thrown into the defense of the Pusan perimeter. What little training time available was used by Freeman to condition his soldiers with forced road marches across the rugged Korean countryside. Martin wrote that Freeman “turned the men of the 23rd from a bewildered, fear-haunted

collection of boys...into steady soldiers who fought as coldly and savagely as a pack of wolves.”

In August of 1950, they weren't yet wolves, but they were about to be weaned.

On Sept. 16, the day after Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur landed the 1st Marine and 7th Infantry Divisions at Inchon, Lt. Gen. Walton H. Walker, 8th Army commander, launched a large-scale offensive to break out of the Pusan perimeter. On Sept. 26 the two forces made contact, and Seoul was recaptured. The allies' rapid drive and envelopment virtually eliminated any North Korean opposition, at least

for the time being.

The 23rd had begun to grow teeth. In the “Bowling Alley” northwest of Taegu, Walker credited them with saving that city after a night engagement. In a perimeter defense along the Naktong River, they beat back 17 attacks in 15 days. As the 2nd Infantry Division and the 23rd with it moved rapidly northward, the threat of Chinese intervention appeared less and less plausible to many, but not to Freeman.

“Those people [Chinese Communist Forces] are going to hit us,” he told his staff and continued rigidly to enforce his all-around perimeter defense.



The monument looks out over the frozen rice paddies and the town where the defenders of Chipyong-ni made their heroic stand. (Photo by Maj. Cal Blake)



Island of Freedom



Present day "Tomahawks" propose a toast to the regiment. (Photo by Cpt. John B. McCollister)

The massive Chinese intervention came on Nov. 25. The 2nd Division was assigned to fight a rearguard action so the rest of 8th Army could retreat south. Finally, the division headquarters, along with the 9th and 38th Infantry—the other two regiments—moved southeast to Suchon while the 23rd covered the withdrawal. The division was ambushed and savagely mauled in the mountains. After the division broke through, the 23rd began to pull back along a more westerly route in more open country. It fought five delaying actions in the first 15 miles.

The U.S. forces eventually fell back into a solid front south of Seoul, which had fallen to the enemy early in January. By Jan. 25 American troops once again were ready to take the offensive. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgeway's Operation Killer was designed to take a heavy toll of the enemy, while UN forces suffered only a few rather than gain real estate. The 23rd proved to be one of the better assets.

In December, the 23rd had received a full-strength French battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Ralph L. Monclair, and the allies began sending out reinforced patrols which returned to their perimeters at night.

At Wonju, the regiment fought savagely for three days in snow and temperatures ranging to 30 degrees below zero. When the battle ended, enemy dead covered the battlefield.

At Twin Tunnels, northwest of

Wonju, a probing patrol was ambushed and had to be rescued by a company-size force. Freeman moved the rest of his unit to engage the enemy. A battle of vicious hand-to-hand and bayonet fighting in dense ground fog ensued. As the fog cleared, allied planes attacked and routed the enemy with rockets and napalm.

The 23rd RCT moved northwest on the troops' find-and-destroy mission.

On Feb. 3, 1951, the wolfpack arrived at Chipyeong-ni, singularly unimpressive and with no particular military significance. Many of the small mud and stick dwellings had already been destroyed by the ravages of war. Sections of the road still bore the pockmarks left by artillery shells. A single railroad track to the south paralleled the main street, and a crossroads marked the approximate center of the town.

Although the eight hills surrounding the village would have made excellent defensive positions, Freeman's force of approximately 5,600

was inadequate to defend such a large perimeter. He was well familiar with the "human wave" tactics of Gen. Lin Piao's Chinese Communist Forces that had virtually wiped out allied forces that stood in their way. In spite of this, Freeman believed that a tight, well-coordinated defensive perimeter could stave off any attack.

As they moved into position, the 23rd's men immediately began setting up a tight, well-coordinated perimeter approximately a mile in diameter. Organic artillery, registered on all avenues of approach, could provide 360-degree coverage of the entire area. Mines, barbed wire and trip flares surrounded the perimeter. Drums of napalm, called fougasses, were planted on the more likely avenues of approach. Interlocking fires were coordinated at all levels. Communications were established to enable the command post to monitor the entire defense. Patrols were sent out continuously during the daylight hours.



The sound of "Taps" echoed through the valley as the last drops of wine flowed from a silver goblet into the Korea Bowl. (Photo by Cpt. John B. McCollister)

Maj. Gen. Henry Doctor Jr. (right) and Lt. Col. Jerry R. Barnhill pay their respects to the warriors of Chipyeong-ni. (Photo by PFC Kim, Dae Jin)

On Feb. 5, an 8th Army offensive began with X Corps, under Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, who once commanded the 2nd Division, attacking in the center of the line to make a double envelopment. A Chinese counterattack on Feb. 11 halted the offensive, and the UN forces soon withdrew. The forces at Chipyeong-ni became a peninsula jutting out in front of the 8th Army's forward defensive line. They would soon become an island.

On the morning of Feb. 13, elements of the 2nd Division's Recon Co. reported an increase in enemy activity in the area around Chipyeong-ni. An Air Force observer in a spotter plane called in artillery fire on suspected enemy forces to the north.

Almond flew in around noon to discuss the tactical situation with Freeman, who was convinced his unit was being encircled and should withdraw the next day. Almond left to relay the request to Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, 8th Army commander since Walker's death in a jeep accident the previous December. As soon as Almond left, patrol reports of enemy movement to the south convinced Freeman the time to leave was now, not tomorrow.

It didn't matter. Ridgway had decided to make a stand at Chipyeong-ni. That evening, Freeman called his commanders together and informed them they were being encircled and soon would be attacked by an estimated four or five Chinese divisions. The stage was set.

By now the 23rd RCT consisted of four infantry battalions (including the French), a battalion and a battery of field artillery, an antiaircraft artillery automatic weapons battery, an engineer company, a Ranger company, and a small number of tanks. The odds weren't favorable.

The early evening was quiet, but



around 10 p.m. lookouts from G Co. detected squads of enemy soldiers moving across the rice paddies to the south. In the distance, long lines of torches could be seen leading enemy soldiers to the battlefield. The Chinese, signalling to each other with horns and whistles, attacked the 3rd platoon in the center of the G Co. line with grenades and small arms fire. To conserve ammunition, the defenders were instructed to fire only when the enemy was visible. They were attacked four more times before the night was over.

As the battle progressed, the Chinese charged with bayonets. against the French on the west flank.

Undaunted, the French countered the blowing bugles with an air raid siren. A French squad drove back the Chinese by attacking them with hand grenades.

The entire perimeter was alive with incoming mortar fire, "banzai" attacks and assaults by self-propelled guns being fired at point blank range into the perimeter.

In the early morning, regimental reserves were sent in to support battered G Co., and just before dawn the command post received word from division headquarters that the roads to the south had been cut off. Chipyeong-ni was now an island of freedom.

As daylight approached, the battle faded and the enemy began blending back into the rice paddies and hills. The entire perimeter was a shambles, but still intact. Freeman himself had a large shrapnel wound in his leg but refused to be evacuated. The men began reconstructing what they could of their position. Refilling sandbags, stringing more barbed wire and filling in gaps left by the wounded and dead, the wounded wolves tried to brace themselves for the inevitable.

Although allied fighters blasted away at the enemy with rockets and napalm on the afternoon of the 14th, the rest of the news was not good. Reinforcements were on the way. But they would not arrive until the next day. Chinese prisoners indicated a massive attack would be launched that night. No one doubted the validity of the interrogations.

As the darkness approached, the remaining defenders of the 23rd RCT braced themselves for what they knew would be the longest, if not the last, night of their lives.

Two hours after dusk, an enemy battalion slammed into K Co. on the east flank, and just before midnight beleaguered G Co. was subjected to a human wave attack by the Chinese regiment. By midnight the entire perimeter was under a vicious assault. Victory in hand-to-hand and bayonet duels became the route to survival. Enemy soldiers had to be rooted out of I Co. foxholes, and the command post came under heavy mortar attack. It was now apparent that the enemy was trying to drive a wedge into the perimeter.

Just before dawn G Co. was overwhelmed, its position occupied by the enemy. The artillery positions and battalion and regimental command posts were not taken under enemy small arms fire. As dawn broke on the

15th the Rangers and B Co. attacked the hill again and again, only to be beaten back. Friendly air attacked the position with rockets and napalm, but the enemy held firm. If the enemy was not driven off the hill before nightfall, the battle would be lost.

But the cavalry was on the way. During the night, the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Cavalry Regiment, under Col. Marcel Crombez, had force-marched from the west bank of the Han River to the village of Hup'o-ri, about seven miles south of Chip-yong-ni. Realizing the immediacy of his mission, Crombez organized an armored task force to break through the Chinese gauntlet and assist the gallant infantrymen. A company of infantry accompanying the task force was instructed to remain on the tanks

only the regiment's organic artillery located inside the perimeter, but also by the 2nd Division artillery to the rear, supplemented by two attached field artillery battalions. The retreat turned into a melee, the melee into a rout, the slaughter calculated and ruthless.

For all practical purposes, the battle for Chip-yong-ni was over. The Chinese Communist Forces had suffered a devastating setback.

The enemy was stopped at Chip-yong-ni.

A third of a century later, on Feb. 11, 1984, military leaders, statesmen, and soldiers from the United States, France and the Republic of Korea once again gathered beneath the stone memorial dedicated to the warriors who defended Chip-yong-ni.

Instead of the piercing blasts of enemy horns and whistles, a lone bugler sounded "Taps"

unless forced off by the enemy tank fire. Only 23 infantrymen and four combat engineers made it through—13 of them wounded—a grim testimony to the difficulty of the rescue effort.

In the late afternoon, Crombez' tanks began attacking the Chinese position on the perimeter while remnants of the 23rd were simultaneously attacking the position from inside the perimeter. The Chinese were surrounded. The tables were turned.

What occurred next is often referred to as the "Wonju Shoot." The enemy, realizing their predicament, began fleeing their positions. As they did so, they came under fire by not

After the traditional toasts, a lone lieutenant, the battalion's junior officer, slowly moved forward. The sound of incoming mortar rounds was now replaced by a seven-man firing party firing three volleys in honor of UN soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice here. Instead of the piercing blasts of enemy horns and whistles, a lone bugler sounded "Taps" as the lieutenant emptied a final goblet of wine into the silver Korea bowl, which had been made years earlier from Combat Infantry badges donated by 23rd Infantrymen. ■

About the author

Maj. Blake serves with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea.



**FAST DAY, MAY 17,
1776**

"There is not a single instance in history," warned the Rev. Dr. John Witherspoon, "in which civil liberty was lost, and religious liberty preserved entire. If therefore we yield up our temporal property, we at the same time deliver the conscience into bondage."

Speaking with a broad Scottish burr, Dr. Witherspoon preached for over an hour on the occasion of the General Fast Day, proclaimed by the Continental Congress. He was not an eloquent preacher or public speaker, but the urgency, sincerity and truth of what he said could make his listeners' blood "shiver along the arteries." Patriot John Adams called him "an animated Son of Liberty."

Dr. Witherspoon delivered his soul-gripping General Fast sermon from the pulpit of the Presbyterian church on the campus of Princeton University, where he was its distinguished president. Fewer than eight years before the sermon, he, his wife, Elizabeth, and a brood of five spirited "Woothurspoons" had arrived in the colony of New Jersey from their native Scotland.

The resolute, plain-spoken Scotsman had brought energetic change to Princeton, then called the College of New Jersey. Besides laboring successfully to overcome the college's financially-embarrassed situation, he worked to broaden its curriculum, build

By Robert Bearce up the library and provide scientific equipment for the students.

A man of rugged conviction and action, Dr. Witherspoon quickly gained the respect, loyalty and friendship of the student body. On one occasion, insubordination was brewing around Nassau Hall on campus.

Dr. Witherspoon summoned Princeton's collegians, lectured them on the crisis, then faced the ringleader with a rather grim, "Now, what have you to say?"

Boldly, the student confronted the president. "I will say only this, that I am no more at guilt than 20 others. All of us are united in that we will share the same fate!"

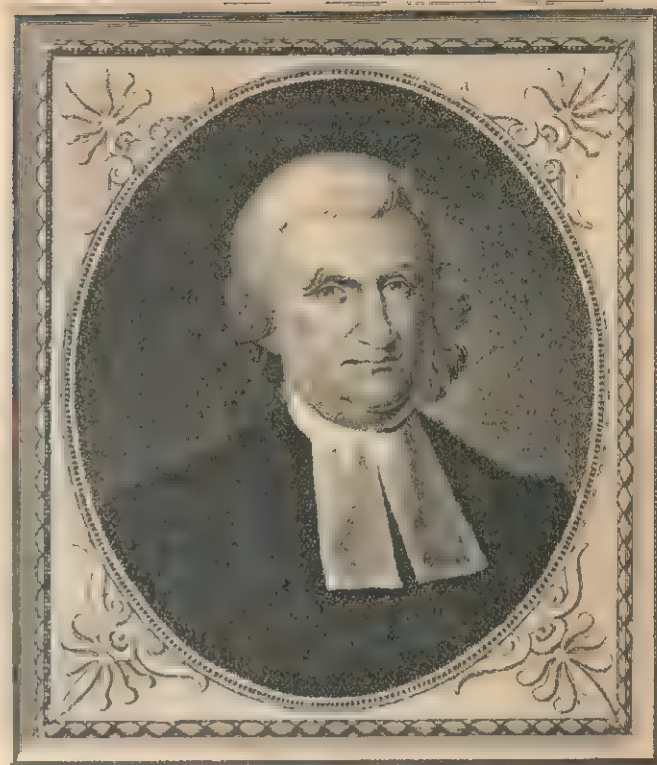
Silence. Dry throats from Princeton's young scholars. Suspense. Weak knees.

Allowing the tense quietness to reap its maximum effect, President Witherspoon finally addressed the defiant ringleader. "Then, sir, you shall know your fate and share it at once, even if that includes the whole college. You, sir, are expelled. Leave the hall immediately!"

More silence. Drier throats. Deepened suspense. Weaker knees.

"Now then," Witherspoon continued, his Scots brogue calm but formidable, "as many of you as it pleases, follow him and share his disgrace!"

No one elected to do so. The president's authority



was preserved. Being a strict disciplinarian, though, went shoulder to shoulder with a sincere, active and personal concern for his students. Dr. Witherspoon counseled and encouraged them in their studies. During one two-year period, he provided at least seven Princeton students with funds from his own pocket to stay in college.

Even while he nurtured the academic life of Princeton, Dr. Witherspoon became active in public affairs. Serving on the Committees of Correspondence from 1774 to 1776, he was also a delegate to the New Jersey Provincial Congress discussing the future of the 13 Colonies. In his General Fast sermon on May 17, 1776—"The Dominion of Providence over the Passions of Men"—he spoke out forcefully for the cause of liberty and self-government.

Slavery, he said, is always a threat to free people, but "when true religion and internal principles maintain their vigor, the attempts of the most powerful enemies to oppress them are commonly baffled and disappointed."

Although Witherspoon did not rant and rail against the British Crown, at least one Scotsman back in Great Britain blamed the transplanted minister for agitating the entire rebellion in the Colonies. One writer penned a satirical poem dedicated to "Dr. Silverspoon, Preacher of Sedition in America"—a nasty piece accusing the rebellious minister of "political drunkenness."

Politically speaking, Dr. Witherspoon was a good deal more sober on current issues than were King George III and his cabinet. Elected to the Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia, he was ready to apply Scriptural principles and truths to all areas of life—public affairs included.

As the delegates to Congress debated the question of separation from Great Britain, one member said the

Father of

time was not ripe for a declaration of independence. With firm insight and foresight, Dr. Witherspoon responded by declaring that America was "not only ripe for the measure but in danger of rotting for the want of it!" Later, he became the only clergyman among the other signers of the Declaration of Independence.

When the war against Britain moved across New Jersey, with Gen. George Washington's forces in retreat, Princeton University was closed, then ransacked. British troops not only ravaged the college and church but raided the Witherspoon farm, Tusculum, one mile north of the campus.

Before the British advance, Witherspoon had moved his family to safety, enabling him afterward to resume his duties as a member of Congress. Day after day, he brought sound judgment, clarity of thought and dry humor to critical standing committees handling foreign affairs and provisioning the troops with clothing. In October, 1777, he was appointed to the Board of War.

Still suffering from a chronic physical condition he had developed back in Scotland, Witherspoon worked

stalwartly in Congress for the cause of freedom. Insomnia, a nervous affliction, hypersensitivity—all were a continued thorn in the side, only to be aggravated by the tragic death of Maj. James Witherspoon, of the New Jersey Brigade, who was killed in action, Oct. 4, 1777.



R. WITHERSPOON'S
eldest son James,

fought at the Battle of Germantown. The cannon ball that cut down Gen. Francis Nash also killed him. Despite the death in his family and personal illness, Dr. Witherspoon continued working tirelessly for stability and financial responsibility in Congress.

Applying his remarkable powers of persuasion to the issues, he argued that Congress should not repudiate its debts. Nor should Congress insist upon inflating and thus debasing the Continental government's currency.

By way of a letter to the New Jersey Gazette in 1779, Gen. Washington heard from Witherspoon. Describing himself as a "Jersey Farmer," the clergyman lashed out

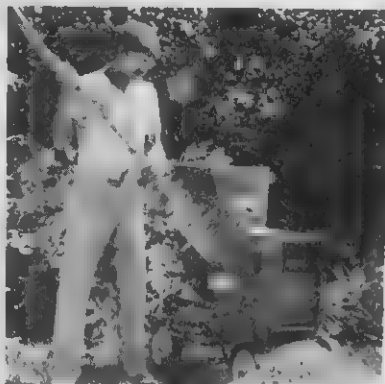
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Americanism

Princeton University as it appeared during John Witherspoon's administration. (Library of Congress.)



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Americanism's Father

continued from page 29

at the disastrous policies of fixing prices. "To fix the price of goods," he snorted indignantly, "especially provisions in a market, is as impracticable as it is unreasonable!"

On inflation, his judgment was equally severe: "I am fully convinced that we have done ourselves more real damage, by depreciating our money, than the enemy with all their force have been able to do."

Also during the war, Witherspoon made time to write a series of articles for the Pennsylvania Journal and

Weekly Advertiser. His "observations upon the present state of the English language in America" covered pronunciations, local idioms, origins and dialects.

In one of his columns, he coined the word "Americanism," which he described as a way "of speaking peculiar to this country." For example, people in the United States might use the Americanisms *mad* for "angry" and *to bamboozle* for "to swindle."

In August, 1783, Gen. Washington was at Princeton, meeting with members of Congress. On behalf of Princeton, college and community, President Witherspoon authored a congratulatory address to his friend and compatriot. Witherspoon spoke sincerely of the "great & unabated attachment of the army & the cordial esteem of all ranks of men & of every state in the union" which the Commander-in-Chief rightfully earned.

Deeply appreciative of President Witherspoon's friendship and loyal support, Gen. Washington replied in part: "I now return to you, Gentlemen, my thanks for your benevolent wishes, and make it my earnest prayer to Heaven, that every temporal and divine Blessing may be bestowed on the Inhabitants of Princeton, on the Neighbourhood, and on the President and Faculty of the College of New Jersey, and that the usefulness of this Institution, in promoting the Interests of Religion and Learning, may be universally extended."

Having proven himself a true patriot alongside his good friend Gen. Washington, President Witherspoon continued to ignite the wrath of his former British brethren even after the war ended. In September, 1783, a British officer named Michaelis attended incognito the commencement exercises at Princeton. Referring to the rebel Witherspoon, he reported back to Sir Guy Carleton:

"An account of the present face of things in America would be very defective indeed, if no mention was made of this political firebrand (Witherspoon), who perhaps had not a less share in the Revolution than Washington himself. He poisons the minds of his young Students and through them the Continent. He is the

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intimate friend of the General."

Although the War for Independence put a tremendous physical and emotional strain upon him, Dr. Witherspoon remained active in public affairs after the war, serving in the New Jersey General Assembly in 1783 and 1789. In 1787, he was a delegate to the New Jersey convention that ratified the U.S. Constitution.

Along with his regular Sunday preaching and guiding Princeton University, he spoke out for fiscal and monetary responsibility in government. In 1786, his brilliant, comprehensive "Essay on Money" was published.

Dr. Witherspoon understood sound economics and consistently advocated money that was backed by gold and silver. He faulted the government for having caused inflation by printing too much paper money. Government authority and power, he emphasized, had no business imposing price freezes, interfering with free enterprise, or otherwise regulating free people who could handle their own daily affairs.

During his 26 years at Princeton, President Witherspoon had a far-reaching impact upon his students, the penniless ones as well as those who came from leading families—the Washingtons, Stocktons, Livingstons, Madisons, Van Rensselaers, Lees, Reads, Macons and Randolphs. Out of the 478 students who were graduated during his presidency came 114 ministers, 20 U.S. Senators, 33 members of the House of Representatives, 13 governors, three Supreme Court Justices, one Vice President of the United States and one President.

Even though Dr. Witherspoon coined the term "Americanism," he actually defined it by his entire life—a life that embodied what we know to be Americanism today. By his attitudes, beliefs and personal example, he fought for the moral, political, economic and Scriptural principles upon which America was founded.

He practiced what he preached on May 17, 1776, advice still good today: "Upon the whole, I beseech you to make a wise improvement of the present threatening aspect of public affairs, and to remember that your

duty to God, to your country, to your families, and to yourselves is the same. And as peace with God and conformity to Him, adds to the sweetness of created comforts while we possess them, so in times of difficulty and trial, it is the man of piety and inward principle that we may expect to find the uncorrupted patriot, the useful citizen, and the invincible soldier." ■

About the author

Robert Bearce writes frequently on historical subjects.

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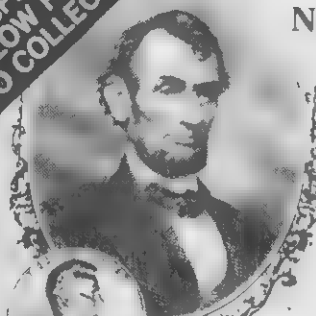
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UNCOMMON VALOR

West Virginia.

Youngest was Jacklyn Harold Lucas, a 5th Marine Division private first class from North Carolina who had turned 17 only six days before his heroic actions of Feb. 20.

Iwo in the Volcano-Bonin group was a vital stepping-stone to the Japanese home islands, 600 miles from Tokyo and an ideal site for an airbase for planes from Tinian to support the planned invasion of Japan.

A little more than 10 square miles in size, Iwo may best be remembered now, 40 years later, for the Pulitzer Prize-winning

Flagraising picture taken by AP photographer Joe Rosenthal atop Mt. Suribachi at the southernmost extremity of the island. The picture, taken Feb. 23 after the heights were won, formed the basis for the Marine Memorial in Washington and has come to symbolize Marine valor.

Before the invasion, air reconnaissance showed 642 blockhouses, pillboxes and gun positions dotting the island. Each had to be taken from the fanatical defenders commanded by Gen. Tadamichi Kuribayashi. He was well supplied with tanks, artillery—8-inch naval guns, 320mm mortars and rockets made from 8-inch naval shells—and 23,000 well dug-in troops.

At the time of the assault, the Japanese had built two airfields and were working on a third. All of this was done despite 72 days of concentrated air and sea bombardment, the heaviest of the Pacific war up to that time.

The beach on the island's eastern shore to be assaulted ran about 2,000

yards northeast from the base of 550-foot high Mt. Suribachi to the East Boat Basin. It was divided into seven separate beaches. The 4th Marine Division was on the left, the 5th on the right and the 3rd was in floating reserve, but it was committed a few days later, less one battalion.

Overall command of the invasion force was in the hands of Marine Lt. Gen. Holland M. Smith. Maj. Gen. Harry Schmidt led V Amphibious Corps, consisting of the three Marine divisions. Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates

The Marines fought and died for five weeks until March 26 when the last pocket of resistance was crushed. Gen. Kuribayashi's body was never found.

By James K. Anderson

Four decades ago—at 9:02 a.m., Feb. 19, 1945, to be exact—began one of the bloodiest, most grueling battles of World War II, one that added even greater luster to the legend of Marine valor, the invasion of Iwo Jima.

When it was all over on March 26, some five weeks later Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said, "Uncommon valor was a common virtue."

He was not exaggerating, for 22 Marines and five Navymen were awarded Medals of Honor during the battle, 14 of them posthumous.

(The centennial of Adm. Nimitz's birth is being observed on Feb. 24. The VFW adopted Resolution 309 at the 85th National Convention calling for issuance of a postage stamp honoring him.)

The oldest and highest ranking of these heroes was Col. Justice M. Chambers, who landed on D-Day with the 4th Marine Division assault landing team. He was 37 and a native of



commanded the 4th, Maj. Gen Keller E. Rockey the 5th and Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine the 3rd.

Resistance was light at first, but soon the Japanese opened up with their big guns and mortars, creating such havoc that no more landing crafts could make their way to the beach that first day.

It was on D-Day that Sgt. John Basilone, who had been awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism on Guadalcanal more than two years earlier, was killed. He had started to lead his machine gun platoon forward from the beach when he was mortally wounded.

For five weeks, the Marines fought and died until finally on March 26 the last pocket of Japanese resistance was crushed by 5th Division and 3rd Division Marines. These last-ditch defenders at Kitano Point were under Kuribayashi's personal command. His body was never found and he is thought to have died four days earlier.

Although most of the Japanese were wiped out, the battle for Iwo Jima cost the 71,245 Americans in the attacking force 5,931 killed and 17,372 wounded.

Who were the 27 Marine and Navy heroes who received their nation's highest honor?

Of the Marines, 14 were in the 5th Division, five in the 4th and three in the 3rd. Most were enlisted men, privates or privates first class, and, except for Col. Chambers, the officers were company grade. Four of the sailors were corpsmen, while the fifth was a junior officer commanding an LCI. Three were corpsmen in the 5th, one in the 4th.

Mostly, they were smalltown boys, coming from places with bucolic names like Quiet Dell, W. Va., Flat River, Mo., and Marvel Valley, Ala. Only three came from Chicago and one from New York. All parts of the country were represented in this roster of heroism—the South, East, West and Midwest all contributed.

Cpl. Charles Joseph Berry, 21, an Ohioan in the 5th Marine Division, threw himself on a Japanese handgrenade on March 3 to save the lives of the others in his machine gun crew. He was killed.

PFC William Robert Caddy, 19, a rifleman in the 5th, and two others were pinned down by sniper fire on March 3 when a Japanese handgrenade fell nearby and he dived on it to save his comrades' lives. A native of Massachusetts, he was killed.

From Feb. 19 to 22, Col. Chambers rallied and reorganized his troops



Six days before his valor on Iwo Jima, Jacklyn Harold Lucas turned 17. He was the youngest recipient of the Medal of Honor on Iwo Jima.

under extreme fire in repeated successful attacks on the enemy's main line of resistance. V Amphibious Corps' early success was attributed to him.

A Missourian, Sgt. Darrell Samuel Cole, 24, a 4th Marine Division machine gun section leader, on Feb. 19 singlehandedly broke through Japanese defenses with handgrenades and was killed when he was returning to his men for more of the missiles.

Capt. Robert Hugo Dunlap, 24, of Illinois, was a 5th Division company commander who on Feb. 20 and 21 led his troops in an attack toward steep cliffs from which the Japanese poured steady fire. Then he crawled forward, located their gun positions and for two days and nights directed fire against "almost impregnable" enemy positions.

On Feb. 21, Sgt. Ross Franklin Gray, 24, of Alabama and the 4th Division, under withering fire cleared a path on Feb. 21 through a minefield to a fortification, crept up to the enemy position and destroyed it with a short-fused satchel charge. He did this six times despite a blanket of fire, killing 25 Japanese. His award was posthumous.

The leader of a 5th Division assault group, Sgt. William George Harrell, 22, of Texas, held off a March 3 dawn attack on the command post singlehandedly, despite the loss of his left

With Mt. Suribachi in the background, Marines land on Iwo Jima, one of the hardest fought, costliest battles of World War II. It began in February, 40 years ago. (Marine Corps Photo.)





Justice M. Chambers, then a colonel, celebrated his 37th birthday shortly before his heroism on Iwo Jima. He was the oldest to be honored.



John Basilone's heroism on Guadalcanal was recognized with the Medal of Honor, but he was killed in the earliest days of the fighting on Iwo Jima.

hand and later his right. When he was evacuated, 12 Japanese had been killed, five of them by him personally.

A Navy lieutenant from North Carolina, Rufus G. Herring, 23, commanded an LCI on Feb. 17 during a pre-invasion attack on the island. He directed fire against shore batteries, although the LCI's deck was a sheet of flame. Wounded seriously, he directed evacuation of the wounded and navigated the crippled vessel to safety.

PFC Douglas Thomas Jacobson, 19, of New York, 4th Division, destroyed an anti-aircraft battery with a bazooka on Feb. 26, then two machine gun positions, a blockhouse, a pillbox and six more positions. Then he volunteered for another assault company, knocked out a tank, neutralized another pillbox and attacked yet another one.

P/Sgt. Joseph Rudolph Julian, 26, born in Sturbridge, Mass., and serving in the 5th Marine Division, put his platoon's guns in strategic positions on March 9 and assaulted a Japanese pillbox that had been holding up his company. In knocking out the emplacement, he killed seven and with another Marine destroyed two more pillboxes. He went on alone to destroy two more cave positions before he was killed.

PFC James Dennis LaBelle, 19, of Minnesota, saved the lives of his 5th Division comrades on March 8 when he threw himself on an enemy handgrenade. He was killed.

Commanding a 3rd Division company, **Lt. John Harold Leims**, 23, of Chicago, on March 7 led his men in an

attack and reached a point 400 yards ahead of the other units and withdrew under orders. Then, under continuous fire, he went forward twice more to rescue seriously wounded Marines.

When **PFC Lucas** and three 5th Division comrades were ambushed, he saved their lives by absorbing a grenade blast. He survived.

A 5th Division platoon leader, **Lt. Jack Lummus**, 29, a Texan, knocked out pillboxes and other positions on March 8 that held up his unit's attack, although he was severely wounded. His award was posthumous.

Lt. Harry Linn Martin, 34, a native of Bucyrus, Ohio, and a 5th Marine Division platoon leader, organized defense of his unit's area when it was hit by an attack shortly before dawn on March 26. In the face of heavy fire, he rescued several of his men. Four Japanese infiltrators seized an abandoned machine gun, began firing it and hurling handgrenades. Wounded twice, Martin charged the Japanese twice into a strong enemy force and scattered them with pistol fire. He was mortally wounded.

While commanding a 4th Division rifle company, **Capt. Joseph Jeremiah McCarthy**, 33, of Chicago, on Feb. 21 led a flamethrower team 75 yards through enemy fire, personally destroyed two strongpoints and killed one of the Japanese as he was aiming his rifle at a Marine. McCarthy first disarmed the enemy and shot him with his own weapon. After all resistance was wiped out, he led his company on to take a contested ridge.

Pvt. George Phillips, 18, a Missouri-

an, threw himself on a handgrenade during a night attack on March 14 against the 5th Division. His award was posthumous.

A Navy pharmacist's mate from Iowa, **Francis Junior Pierce**, 20, attached to the 4th Division on March 15 and 16, exposed himself to enemy fire to draw it from the wounded and later carried a wounded Marine 200 feet to safety through deadly rifle fire. The next morning, wounded, he refused treatment in order that other casualties would be cared for.

A posthumous award went to **PFC Donald Jack Ruhl**, 21, of Montana, who, after waging a virtual two-day one-man war against Japanese posi-

During the five weeks of fighting on Iwo Jima, 22 Marines and five Navymen earned the Medal of Honor, 14 of them posthumously.

tions surrounding Mt. Suribachi being attacked Feb. 19-21 by the 5th Division, threw himself on a grenade to save the lives of his comrades and was killed.

Franklin Earl Sigler, 20, a private in the 5th Marine Division and a native of Glen Ridge, N.J., took over his rifle squad on March 14 when the squad leader was wounded and led it in an assault against a gun emplacement that had impeded the advance of the company for several days. He reached the position ahead of the others and wiped out the enemy with handgrenades. When Japanese concealed in tunnels and caves above began firing at him, he climbed the rocks and surprised them with "a furious one-man assault," in the citation's words. Wounded severely, he returned to his unit and directed machine gun and rocket fire. Despite his own injuries, he refused evacuation and

took three wounded comrades to safety.

Cpl. Tony Stein, 23, of Ohio, was one of the first men ashore when the 5th Division landed on Feb. 19. He provided covering fire and when his comrades were stalled, he drew Japanese fire.

Stein neutralized enemy pillboxes as he fired an automatic weapon he improvised. He made eight trips to the beach for more ammunition and brought back wounded each time. All the while, the Japanese kept up a hail of bullets and shellfire. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

Another Navy pharmacist's mate, **George Edward Wahlen**, 20, of Utah,

attached to the 5th Division on March 3 was unhesitating in rendering aid to the large number of casualties sustained and disregarded heavy Japanese fire to help the wounded. Although wounded himself, he refused evacuation.

Gunnery Sgt. William Gary Walsh, 22, of Massachusetts, was singled out for the Medal of Honor for heroism on Feb. 27 when he charged at the head of his platoon against a hail of fire to take a ridge. Then he threw himself on a grenade to save the lives of other 5th Division Marines. His award was posthumous.

Pvt. Wilson Douglas Watson, 23, of Alabama, knocked out a Japanese pillbox that was holding up the



Fifth Marine Division troops on Iwo Jima approach a Japanese pillbox, warily lest any Japanese survived the naval and aerial pounding. (Marine Corps Photo.)

advance of his 3rd Division company on Feb. 26 and 27. When the unit was pinned down, he charged, firing his Brownie Automatic Rifle from the hip, and killed 60 enemy by the time his comrades rejoined him.

Cpl. Hershel Woodrow Williams, 21, of West Virginia, knocked out several pillboxes with the 3rd Division on Feb. 23. Enemy riflemen repeatedly tried to stop him, but he overcame them with his flamethrower.

A third pharmacist's mate, Jack Williams, 20, of Arkansas, braved heavy Japanese fire to aid wounded 5th Division Marines on March 3, even though he was mortally wounded himself.

John Harlan Willis, a Tennessean, also a pharmacist's mate with the 5th Division, aided wounded Marines during heavy fire and hand-to-hand fighting on Feb. 28 until he was wounded by shrapnel. Later disregarding his own safety, he braved mortar and sniper fire to rescue a Marine. While administering blood plasma, the last of nine grenades he caught and threw back at the enemy exploded in his hand and killed him instantly.

The invasion of Iwo Jima had been scheduled first for Jan. 20, but was postponed twice to Feb. 19 because the Navy was heavily engaged in the Philippine campaign.

Adm. Nimitz certainly was not given to exaggeration. ■

An unknown sculptor carved this representation of the famous Flag-raising on an Iwo rock among names and initials of Americans and Japanese.



By Bradford H. Denny

THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF ALDEN PARTRIDGE, SEVERELY WOUNDED in 1818 by his removal from the superintendency of the United States Military Academy at West Point, lives on.

On Feb. 12, 1985, the United States Postal Service is honoring Partridge and his pioneering, venturesome spirit with a commemorative stamp in its "Great Americans" series. Initiated in 1980, the series includes Ralph Bunche, Pearl S. Buck, Harry S Truman and Dorothea Dix, a political scientist, a writer, a President and a humanitarian.

Partridge's name is being added to this list as a result of his advocacy for the training of citizen soldiers and his implementation of that concept at the nation's first private military college. That institution, which later became Norwich University, was known at its founding in 1819 as "The American Literary, Scientific and Military Academy" and was located in Norwich, Vt.

Because his system for training citizen soldiers in 1819 foreshadowed such units in the Land Grant Act of 1862, Partridge is widely considered "the Spiritual Father of ROTC". Vermont Sen. Justin Morrill, a longtime associate of Partridge, authored the land grant college legislation that required these schools to teach agriculture, mechanical arts and military tactics in a manner heavily dependent on Partridge's model.

Partridge, a native of Norwich,



ROTC's Source

attended Dartmouth College from 1802 to 1805 before transferring to the newly organized U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was graduated from there in 1806, with a commission as a first lieutenant in the engineers and an appointment as assistant professor of mathematics.

Inadequate funding, national disagreement over the role of the professional military soldier in the life of the new republic and political influences on the appointment of students and faculty made the first two decades of the Academy's life rocky ones. Partridge often became acting superintendent when his superiors were in Washington or elsewhere.

Initially as acting superintendent and then as superintendent, Partridge sought to implement his "American system of education" at an institution that had a neither clearly defined nor adequately funded mission. The faculty was attuned by nature and experience to an educational system based on European models. He sought to replace what he regarded as excessive reliance upon textbook education in the classics with an education combining study with practical experience required for living and warfare. Conflict between the controversial Partridge and his faculty led finally to his removal as superintendent.

With this painful episode in his life behind him, Partridge moved back to his familiar north country. He worked on the survey of the boundary between Canada and the northeastern United States in 1819. This was authorized by the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812. In the fall he moved back to his birthplace and boyhood home in order to put his beliefs concerning education into practice.

The result was the American Literary, Scientific and Military Academy, which became Norwich University in 1834 and was moved to Northfield, Vt., in 1868. Today it maintains a campus in Northfield housing a 1,400-member co-educational corps of cadets. Students there train for three branches of the military service.

In addition to the training they receive through Army, Navy or Air Force ROTC, Norwich cadets also may select from 50 academic majors including engineering, the sciences, computer science, education, business administration, social sciences and liberal arts. While all students on the Northfield campus are members of the corps of cadets, only 15% eventually pursue careers as professional military officers. The balance enter business, education, civil service and the professions.

Undaunted by his experience at

This statue of Alden Partridge stands in the center of the mathematics, science and engineering complex at Norwich University. Partridge, founded the school.





The campus of Norwich University's Military College of Vermont in Northfield, is shown from the air. Cadets live in barracks surrounding the upper parade, while teaching and other supporting facilities surround the upper parade on all sides. The campus houses a co-educational student population consisting of 1,400 members of the corps of cadets, all of whom enroll in one of three branches of ROTC during college even though only 15% pursue professional military careers.

West Point, Partridge installed his "American system of education" at the new academy and was immediately successful. By 1821 enrollment stood at 140 and swelled within a few years to nearly 300. Frequently the number equalled or exceeded West Point's.

Emphasis at Partridge's school was on a combination of classical learning and practical experience. Engineering was offered in a private institution for the first time in the U.S., and agriculture also was included in the curriculum.

Extended hikes described as "pedestrian excursions" provided a blend of educational experiences Partridge desired. At frequent intervals, Partridge led the entire student population of the academy on walks from the campus at Norwich to distant points around New England. Often they lasted for weeks.

The hikes gave the students ex-

perience that included mapping and determining the heights of mountaintops. The height of most of New England's major peaks were recorded for the first time by Partridge's students. So were distances between various locations.

The following announcement made by Partridge remains the best statement of his inspiration and his goal in establishing the academy. His inspiration clearly was the U.S. Constitution. His goal was no less than the defense of the nation.

"Having recently issued a Prospectus containing a plan of the system of education which I propose adopting in the Literary, Scientific and Military Academy I am at present engaged in establishing, I deem it a duty which I owe the public to explain more fully my views in the establishing of this seminary, and also of the principles on which it is to be conducted, than could well be done in a more prospective notice.

"In organizing the plan of education for this institution I have taken for my guide, in part, the Constitution of the United States. By the wise provisions of this instrument and the laws made on purpose thereof, the grand military defense of our favored

country, both against external invasion and internal insurrection, is vested in the great mass of American citizens, from 18 to 45 years of age.

"Those constitute the grand military force of the nation: a force whose feelings and interests are identified with those of the great body of the people, and which, while it forms an impregnable barrier around the constitution and liberties of the country, is in no respect dangerous to either.

"But, in order that this constitutional force should answer the purpose for which it was originally instituted, it must be properly organized and duly instructed in the elements, at least, of military science and tactics.

"Hence arises the necessity, in our country, of an extended system of military education, and of a general diffusion of military knowledge. If these so necessary requisites be not attended to, if the great body of American citizens do not feel that they are something more than merely nominal soldiers, our populations will gradually degenerate, our militia, so emphatically styled the bulwark of our liberties and independence, will lose their military spirit, will decline and finally be destroyed."

Today, ROTC enrolls 110,000 students in colleges and universities nationwide. The 13,000 of these commissioned each year provide more than 70% of the annual needs of the military services for newly commissioned officers.

The health of ROTC today and its importance to the defense of the nation attests to the validity of Partridge's vision of his "American system of education" and his determination to implement that system in 1819 in Norwich, Vt.

United States Postmaster General William F. Bolger (right) and Norwich University President W. Russell Todd participate in the unveiling of the Alden Partridge commemorative stamp to be released Feb. 12. At left is Philip R. Marsilius, chairman of the Norwich University Board of Trustees.



Q-I just received notification that I have an overpayment of my educational benefits. Will I be charged interest on this debt?

A-Interest and administrative costs of collection will be charged on all overpayments that are not paid in full within 30 days.

Q-I believe I suffer disabilities as a result of being exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam. What should I do?

A-Veterans who believe they were exposed to herbicides in Vietnam are encouraged to make an appointment for an examination at the nearest VA medical center. Benefits counselors at the medical center or at the regional office can assist you in filing a claim for disability compensation for conditions you believe resulted from exposure.

Q-I am single, receiving a non-service connected disability pension and expect soon to become a permanent resident in a nursing home. Is it true that my pension will be reduced to \$60 a month?

A-No. Only a single veteran whose nursing home expenses are being paid by the VA has the pension reduced to \$60 a month. The reduction is made only after a veteran has received two full calendar months of care.

Q-I am a widow receiving dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC). My rate of payment is based on my deceased husband's World War II rank of E-3. Why isn't my DIC payment based on his higher retired Army Reserve rank of W-4?

A-Your DIC payment is based on the highest rank held for at least six months while on active duty. Your husband's years in the Army Reserve are considered to be for training purposes only.

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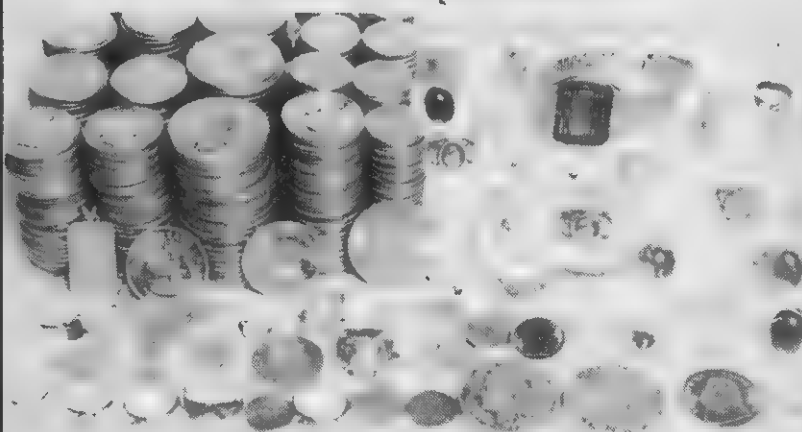
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A member of **Post 475**, Newark, Del., since 1941 has the same name as his native state. He is Delaware Reed, who explains that he was named for an uncle who had the same given name. The uncle was killed in an accident shortly before his birth, so his father decided on the given name. His friends call him "Del."

Post 7387, Hazard, Ky., recently honored Daniel Davidson, of Grapevine, with a plaque for his World War I service. He is one of the few surviving veterans of that war in Hazard County.

A British veteran now living in New Zealand, Thomas Rogers, writes that he is seeking American veterans of the Army Air Force who dropped supplies at his prison camp in Osaka, Japan, at the end of WWII. The B-29 crew enclosed a note saying "Good luck, fellows" with their airdrop. Their names were E.K. Weddle, Roanoke, Va.; J.C. Derryberry, Altus, Okla.; Bill Troutman and J.L. Ising, Louisville, Ky.; Herb S. Miller, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Jack Greenway, Knoxville, Tenn.; Jim Stenberg, Portland, Ore.; Don H. Sowers, Englewood, Calif.; L.O. Herrington, Houston, Texas, and C.R. Murdough and E.A. Klinga, no city listed. The plane was based on Saipan and apparently was part of the 829th Bombardment Squadron of the 494th Bombardment Group. The Briton may be reached at 23 Arran Road, Browns Bay, Auckland, N.Z.

Commander Ken Samson, of **Post 2673**, Cody, Wyo., sent in this accolade for a Post member under the title of "Patriotism at Its Best."

"While performing his duty on the VFW Honor Guard firing squad, honoring one of our fallen comrades, Dick Null, stricken with cancer, attempted to fire the first volley, when his right arm snapped breaking it clean above the elbow. Unknown to the grieving family and friends, he went through the motions of the final two volleys, then stood at 'present arms' without being able to move his right arm, while 'Taps' were being sounded and during the presentation of the Flag to the widow.

"This act of bravery and dedication

is above and beyond the call of duty. We of **Post 2673** salute you, Dick Null."

A member of **Post 477**, Carlisle, Pa., Dale F. Shughart, Jr., was reunited recently with his former commanding officer at the 83rd anniversary of the Army War College in Carlisle. Shughart and now retired Col. Harry P. Ball had served together on the DMZ in Korea. Shughart's father, retired Judge Dale F. Shughart, also is a member of **Post 477**.

In a "dear America" letter, New York Mayor Edward I. Koch is urging as many persons as possible to attend the dedication of the city's Vietnam

At least 80 homeowners and businesses had been awarded certificates of patriotism by **Post 1857**, Oklahoma City, by the end of November. Post Junior Vice Commander Paul Niedzwiecki accepts nominations for the honor from citizens or on the basis of his own observations. He also is the Post Americanism chairman.

Quartermaster E. Riddarskjold, of **Post 970**, Honolulu, advises that Post members have undertaken to maintain a stone and plaque that marks the spot where returning Americans taken prisoner during the Vietnam War first set foot on United States soil



Children were feted on Christmas by **Post 1682**, Bowling Green, Ky. Here some pose with Santa Claus (James Walker), as his helper, Marvin White, looks on. Later bags of gifts and baskets of food for Bowling Green's needy were distributed. Some 250 children attended the party.

Veteran Memorial on May 7, "the heart of Vietnam Veterans Week" that runs from May 5 through May 12. "The highlight of the dedication ceremony will be thousands of Vietnam Era veterans marching down Broadway in what promises to be New York's largest and most spectacular ticket tape parade ever," Koch writes.

Col. Jerome J. Haggerty at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310, is seeking crests of military intelligence units, active and deactivated, for display in the Pentagon's corridor depicting their role in America's wars.

after their release. Riddarskjold writes that the memorial had been neglected and ignored, but "we have started to change that and will continue by painting the stone and shining the plaque periodically. It will not be forgotten."

Post 3023, Grand Rapids, Mich., which has launched an all-out drive to reach 1,000 members, delivered 307 five-pound blocks of cheese, totalling 1,535, last July. By September Post deliveries had amounted to 4,682 five-pound blocks of cheese and 4,778 pounds of butter. Cheese Chair-

continued on page 42

To Honor Two Great Men Whose Lives
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1984 is a remarkably historical year! 20 years ago, By a Special Act of Congress, John F. Kennedy ... the youngest man ever elected President of the United States ... had his portrait placed on the half dollar coin as a tribute to his leadership and for the love of his country for the man. Likewise, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth, Abraham Lincoln had his portrait placed on the penny, the 1st cent to bear the words "In God We Trust".

The similarity between these two great assassinated leaders is so startling that if these documented facts were not fully corroborated, we would find them almost impossible to believe.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Lincoln was elected in 1860 | • Kennedy was elected in 1960 |
| ----- BOTH MEN WERE SLAIN ON A FRIDAY ----- | |
| • Booth shot Lincoln in a theatre and hid in a warehouse | • Oswald shot Kennedy from a warehouse and hid in a theatre |
| • Lincoln's secretary (named Kennedy) warned him not to go to the theatre | • Kennedy's secretary (named Lincoln) warned him not to go to Dallas |
| ----- BOTH MEN WERE SUCCEEDED BY THEIR VICE PRESIDENTS NAMED JOHNSON ----- | |
| • Andrew Johnson — born 1808 | • Lyndon Johnson — born 1908 |

Amazing! Yet there are literally a dozen more incredible "coincidences" that have occurred in the lives of Lincoln and Kennedy over 100 years of time

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In the Field

continued from page 41

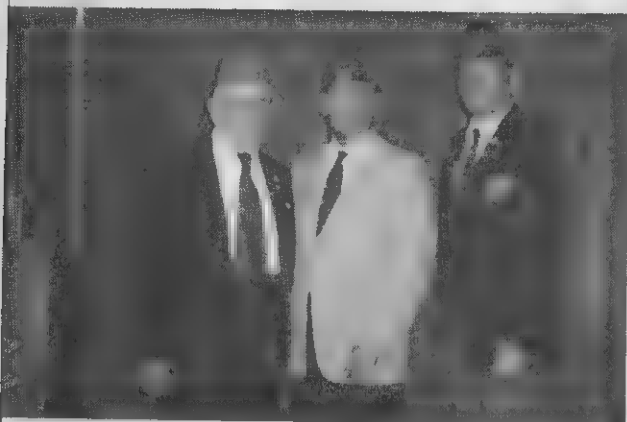
man Frank Korsky cited for praise Marion Wine and Julius Wagenborg, the drivers, and their helpers Marvin Cardinal and Lorraine McDonald.

Past Commander Charles B. Bishop of Post 183, Warwick, R.I., recently was feted by the Post on his 90th birthday. A World War I veteran of the famed 26th Division, he is the last survivor of that war to be a Post member.

"It is a very fine feeling to be remembered like this at my age," he writes. "So to all my comrades here and those who are gone—with many prayers to all."

In a Veterans Day editorial, the Flat River, Mo., Daily Journal called for a special tribute to Marine Sgt. Darrell S. Cole, a native son who earned the Medal of Honor on Iwo Jima. (See "Uncommon Valor" elsewhere in this issue.) The editorial urged that a memorial be erected to him beyond the "simple stone" that marks his grave in Parkview Cemetery and asked that a fundraising drive be launched on Feb. 19, the 40th anniversary of the landing on Iwo Jima. Sgt. Cole's sister, Waunita Frost, a member of Ladies Auxiliary to Post 2550, Dunedin, Fla., advised of the editorial.

Military units with the same or similar numbers often create confusion. Thus, in response to queries from a few comrades about the 767th Tank Battalion, the 776th Amphibian Tank Battalion and the 776th Tank Battalion this explanation. The 767th Tank Battalion served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater, where it took part in the Eastern Mandates and Leyte campaigns. It received a bronze arrowhead for its assault landing on Leyte. The 776th Amphibian Tank Battalion earned bronze arrowheads for assault landings in the Western Pacific, Leyte and the Ryukyus. The 776th Tank Battalion, as it was redesignated in August, 1953, fought in six campaigns in the European Theater from Tunisia to Central Europe. In WWII, it was the 776th Tank Destroyer Battalion.



During a recent visit to Virginia's Division of War Veterans' Claims and Quantico National Cemetery, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron was photographed with John Pavik, national commander of World War I Veterans, and Commander George E. McCracken, of the Department of Virginia.



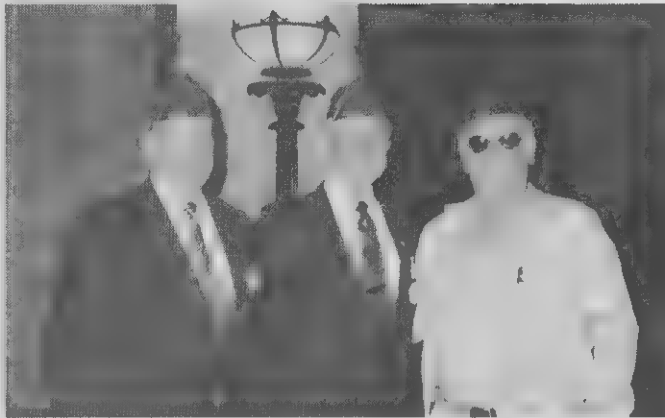
Holding a flag that has flown over Arlington National Cemetery are Commander Tom Anderson, of Post 1949, Enumclaw, Wash.; Mrs. Ruth Ivarsen, a Gold Star Mother, and Mayor Robert Denison. Flag was obtained by the Post through Sen. Dan Evans. The occasion was the rededication of the veterans' section of Evergreen Memorial Cemetery on Veterans Day.



This veterans' memorial in La Junta, Colo., was dedicated on Veterans Day by Post 1092, aided by members of Posts 336, Ordway, and 4091, Rocky Ford, as well as Department and District 6 officers.



Post 29 Haverhill, Mass., receives two wheelchair vans from the state. Presenting them to Post Commander Loren Libby and Building Association President Robert D. Sullivan is Ann N. Herhsfang, a state official. The vans will be used to transport the city's elderly and handicapped.



Inspector Gen. J.P. Cockrill and Arkansas Department Commander Ernest D. Kyzer flank Washington Office Executive Director Cooper T. Holt at a Peace Through Strength rally.

Commander Elmer Kretsch, of Post 1008, Pontiac, Mich., and Auxiliary President Donna Stieber present a flag and pole and memorial to the Waterford Township cemetery. With them is Township Supervisor James Seeterlin



Four veterans of four wars pose at the annual Veterans Day program held by Post 2800, Dayton, Ohio. They are, seated, Frank Kujawa, WWI, and, standing, Wayne Hendricks, WWII; John Ginan, Korea, and Charles Simpson, Vietnam.



Color Guard of Post 7840, Northern Butler County, Pa., pose at the monument to war dead dedicated by the Post.

Department Commanders-of-the-Month

December



DIV. I

Glen A. Rohr
Ohio



DIV. II

Patrick Bohmer (4)
Minnesota



DIV. III

Wayne Smith
Indiana



DIV. IV

Casimir (Charles)
Lukoski (4)
Maryland



DIV. V

Dwaine Wilson
Nebraska



DIV. VI

Alva D. Nash (3)
Louisiana



DIV. VII

Kenneth L. Nelson (2)
South Dakota



DIV. VIII

Arthur Streed (3)
North Dakota



DIV. IX

Robert Smith (4)
Alaska



DIV. X

Edward Stewart (2)
Hawaii

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

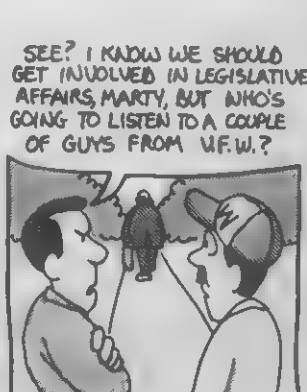
national aides-de-camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of December, 1984. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new or 50 reinstated members, or any combination of both totalling 50.

Ernest O. Kyler, Post 1932, Red Bluff, Calif.; Inman C. Howard, Post 8547, Sunny-mead, Calif.; Arthur A. Landry, Post 8463, Cape Coral, Fla.; Raymond Cutts, Post 1485, Woodridge, Ill.; Kenneth Schlosser, Post 6870, Chicago, Ill.; Lawrence E. Gross, Post 109, Ellsworth, Maine; Tomas F. Bunting,

Post 2562, Silver Spring, Md.; Arvin L. Olson, Post 1296, Bloomington, Minn.; Franklin G. Hawkins, Post 5483, Mars Hill, N.C.; John Ochoa, Post 8986, Newport, N.C.; William J. Rodriguez, Post 1857, Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Kenneth J. Vitale, Post 8617, Richmond, Va.

Marty



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL VFW POST.

District Commanders-of-the-Month

December

DIV. I
District 8
Indiana
Wilford McDaniel (4)

DIV. II
District 1
Ohio
Joseph Frankowski (2)

DIV. III
District 18
Illinois
Francis Frankenburg

DIV. IV
District 19
Florida
Roscoe R. Staley

DIV. V
District 20
California
Tom Pearson

DIV. VI
District 2
Maryland
Douglas Powell

DIV. VII
District 3
South Carolina
William H. Chapman

DIV. VIII
District 14
Arkansas
Perry Hickman (4)

Post Commanders-of-the-Month

December

DIV. I
Post 1114
Indiana
Orbit Scott (4)

DIV. II
Post 2539
Mississippi
Clifford Horn (3)

DIV. III
Post 3962
Mississippi
Roy Colston (2)

DIV. IV
Post 9223
California
Elbert C. Theisen

DIV. V
Post 4809
Virginia
Walter G. Bryan (3)

DIV. VI
Post 8463
Florida
Nicholas A. Duva (3)

DIV. VII
Post 4667
Virginia
Marshall E. Guy (4)

DIV. VIII
Post 3282
Florida
Romano J. Caruso (2)

DIV. IX
Post 6180
Florida
Peter Puentes

DIV. X
Post 2435
Pennsylvania
Clyde Kraft

DIV. XI
Post 3620
New Jersey
John R. Murray

DIV. XII
Post 10252
Alaska
Vernon L. Jones (3)

DIV. XIII
Post 6480
North Carolina
Bobby G. Canupp

DIV. XIV
Post 2869
Arkansas
Robert G. Tucker (2)

DIV. XV
Post 7721
Florida
Clarence J. Smuder (2)

DIV. XVI
Post 5483
North Carolina
James C. Rich (2)

DIV. XVII
Post 2873
Ohio
Garry B. Young

DIV. XVIII
Post 4517
Arkansas
Bobby D. Hoggard (2)

DIV. XIX
Post 10661
Louisiana
Evie A. Douget (2)

DIV. XX
Post 2728
Kentucky
Larry Hicks (3)

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

Post 8516: By Itself

By Richard M. Ross

Like the members of Post 7878 (June), those of Post 8516, Pinch-Quick, Elkview, W. Va., built their Post home, too.

Chartered Sept. 24, 1978, with 43 members, Post 8516 currently has 193. From the outset, the first objective was to build a Post home, and one of the best fundraising activities was a monthly dance at a community

recreational center that went well until some of the town council decided they were not getting any of the profits, so they closed down the dances.

A shooting match, held successfully for the past five years, was substituted. After a long and careful process. The Post was able to purchase a lot, free and clear.

The next objective was to develop this property. One member had the equipment and, for the cost of the equipment operator and fuel, he leveled and filled the lot. While the fill settled, the Post continued to replenish its building fund.

A member's friend had to clear some additional land for pasture. The timber he cut was of no use to him so he donated the logs to the VFW.

One of the members operates a saw mill. This fit in with the plans. A work party was formed and as many logs as possible were then hauled to the mill, cut and stacked to dry.

While the lumber was drying, the footer was poured. This was one of the few things that had to be purchased. The blocks were laid for the foundation. Many of them were donated by Post members. After the foundation and blocks dried and cured, the lumber was hauled to the

posts of 1,000 members or more

Recorded as of Dec. 10, 1984

Post Place No.	Location	1984-85 Membership
1 1114	Evansville, Ind.	3,686
2 3579	Park Ridge, Ill.	2,312
3 628	Sioux Falls, S.D.	2,264
4 1308	Alton, Ill.	2,060
5 5555	Richfield, Minn.	1,998
6 2539	Gulfport, Miss.	1,974
7 1146	St. Clair Shores, Mich.	1,930
8 47	Uniontown, Pa.	1,897
9 360	Mishawaka, Ind.	1,871
10 131	Lincoln, Neb.	1,801
11 1064	Huntington, W. Va.	1,749
12 1296	Bloomington, Minn.	1,697
13 49	Mobile, Ala.	1,690
14 1273	Rapid City, S.D.	1,667
15 2290	Manville, N.J.	1,643
16 6704	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	1,571
17 6506	Rosedale, Md.	1,556
18 401	Albuquerque, N.M.	1,496
19 249	Butler, Pa.	1,463
20 3382	Kingaport, Tenn.	1,459
21 7987	New Port Richey, Fla.	1,452
22 6976	Bristol, Va.	1,448
23 4372	Odessa, Texas	1,413
24 367	Joliet, Ill.	1,408
25 6640	Metairie, La.	1,398
26 1989	Indiana, Pa.	1,394
27 969	Tacoma, Wash.	1,384
28 2100	Everett, Wash.	1,378
29 379	Yakima, Wash.	1,359
30 4057	Tupelo, Miss.	1,355
31 1275	Lima, Ohio	1,351
32 2503	Omaha, Neb.	1,332
33 447	Albert Lea, Minn.	1,308
34 1736	Alexandria, La.	1,307
35 1599	Chambersburg, Pa.	1,301
36 3962	Corinth, Miss.	1,293
37 1650	Topeka, Kans.	1,287
38 1003	Jefferson City, Mo.	1,286
39 9619	Morningside, Md.	1,283
40 3851	Carmi, Ill.	1,280
41 1621	Janesville, Wis.	1,264
42 549	Tucson, Ariz.	1,258
43 5632	St. Louis Park, Minn.	1,256
44 1079	Elyria, Ohio	1,249
45 4087	Davidson, Minn.	1,247
46 5263	Fort Sill, Okla.	1,245
47 1000	Independence, Mo.	1,240
48 641	Columbia, S.C.	1,231
49 1810	Brentwood, Pa.	1,230
50 501	Denver, Colo.	1,214
51 733	Mason City, Iowa	1,202
52 891	Asheville, N.C.	1,190
53 53	Jamestown, N.Y.	1,189
54 2529	Sandusky, Ohio	1,189
55 6251	Cheektowaga, N.Y.	1,188
56 1865	Kenosha, Wis.	1,184
57 6896	Detroit, Mich.	1,177
58 295	South St. Paul, Minn.	1,177
59 2199	Joliet, Ill.	1,174
60 283	Kingston, Pa.	1,174
61 7119	Indianapolis, Ind.	1,172
62 1432	Salina, Kans.	1,171
63 23	Lebanon, Pa.	1,170
64 6240	Russell, Kans.	1,166
65 2704	South Omaha, Neb.	1,168
66 573	Clarksburg, W. Va.	1,157
67 7330	Oakville, Conn.	1,155
68 9400	Sunnyslope, Ariz.	1,155
69 6874	Lemon Grove, Calif.	1,152
70 1857	Oklahoma City, Okla.	1,143
71 4903	Tucson, Ariz.	1,138
72 832	South Portland, Maine	1,133
73 8541	San Antonio, Texas	1,129
74 6796	Dallas, Texas	1,125
75 2754	West View, Pa.	1,110
76 428	Saint Cloud, Minn.	1,092
77 112	Wichita, Kans.	1,090
78 3160	Norfolk, Va.	1,089
79 3777	Festus, Mo.	1,089
80 2940	W. Seneca, N.Y.	1,086
81 762	Fargo, N.D.	1,085
82 1216	Austin, Minn.	1,084
83 972	Terre Haute, Ind.	1,075
84 1	Denver, Colo.	1,072
85 2012	Abilene, Texas	1,070
86 2346	Saugus, Maine	1,061
87 1120	Indianapolis, Ind.	1,058
88 3790	Logansport, Ind.	1,053
89 1863	Solon, Ohio	1,045
90 1115	Hillville, Va.	1,040
91 5225	W. Memphis, Ark.	1,038
92 4051	Colorado Springs, Colo.	1,034
93 1590	Daytona Beach, Fla.	1,026
94 305	Eau Claire, Wis.	1,025
95 2640	Wallington, N.J.	1,009
96 2702	Huntsville, Ala.	1,003
97 2093	Orlando, Fla.	1,001
98 9223	Arlington, Calif.	1,000

Order of Parade

Standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters through Dec. 31, 1984.

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 86.50%		
1	Alaska	94.90
2	Maryland	91.79
3	Ohio	91.71
4	Minnesota	91.70
5	Nebraska	91.14
6	Virginia	91.07
7	North Dakota	90.89
8	Michigan	90.80
9	Delaware	90.59
10	Indiana	89.89
11	South Dakota	89.72
12	Louisiana	89.45
13	Florida	88.803
14	Kansas	88.802
15	Wisconsin	88.73
16	Illinois	88.25
17	North Carolina	88.06
18	Iowa	88.00
19	Rhode Island	87.27
20	Hawaii	87.22
21	Missouri	86.89
22	Maine	86.82
23	Oregon	86.64
24	California	86.60
25	New Jersey	86.52
26	Arizona	86.47
27	Arkansas	86.39
28	Vermont	86.05
29	West Virginia	85.84
30	Mississippi	85.78
31	New York	85.33
32	Colorado	85.15
33	Montana	85.08
34	Washington	84.84
35	Pennsylvania	84.39
36	South Carolina	84.01
37	Connecticut	83.83
38	Idaho	83.77
39	Massachusetts	82.85
40	New Mexico	82.83
41	New Hampshire	82.75
42	Nevada	81.98
43	Wyoming	81.79
44	Texas	81.55
45	Kentucky	80.04
46	Alabama	79.81
47	Georgia	79.74
48	Tennessee	78.75
49	Oklahoma	78.70
50	Pacific Area	78.67
51	District of Columbia	77.70
52	Utah	72.06
53	Panama Canal	66.39
LAST	Germany	58.96

Post location by the saw mill operator. The building — 60 by 28 feet — started to take shape. Many people volunteered their time and effort.

Sept. 24, last year, was the Post's fifth anniversary. Since the date fell on Saturday, the Post home dedication was held then.

Post 8516 was awarded its perpetual charter only two years after it was instituted.

Recruiter Recognition Winners

These are the winners in the second quarterly drawing for a paid Life Membership (or cash equivalent) in the 1984-85 Recruiter Recognition program.

Anthony J. Summers, Post 3614, Pennsylvania; William L. Barkley, Post

728, Illinois; Wallace F. Shaw, Post 8006, Massachusetts; Wiley Radar, Post 2228, Illinois; George W. Holloway, Post 3962, Mississippi; Harvey N. Smuder, Post 6692, Minnesota; Loyd Eitel, Post 7773, Kansas; Roy M. Manning, Post 2166, Tennessee; Allen Soesbe, Post 9950, South Dakota; and Armond J. Knight, Post 3665, Louisiana.

Thousands of VFW Members Have Turned to VFW-Sponsored Hospital Plan for Help

With hospital costs higher than ever, it is no wonder that thousands of VFW members have turned to the guaranteed VFW-Sponsored Group Hospital Benefit Plan for help. More than 40,000 members are enrolled for coverage and many other thousands have provided this valuable protection for their spouses and eligible dependent children as well. National Headquarters is pleased with members' responses to this Plan and is committed to continuing efforts to offer the Plan to members of all ages.

VFW Insurance Director Robert W. Crow offers two major reasons for the growing success of the VFW-Sponsored Group Hospital Benefit Plan. First and foremost is every member's need for supplemental protection.

According to U.S. Department of Labor statistics, hospital room charges are up more than 520% since 1967. The Health Care Financing Administration reports average daily cost of a hospital room in the U.S. is up to \$345 — that's just room and board.

When you figure in the cost of doctors' fees, medication, surgery, blood, therapy and the like, you can see how your hospital bill could soar into thousands of dollars. Even with basic hospital and major medical coverage, you could be responsible for paying a good percentage of that hospital bill out of your own pocket due to deductibles and co-payments.

But besides the actual hospital and medical bills, all the day-to-day living expenses must be figured in. They never stop coming even though your income may be reduced or even

lost because of hospital confinement. Suddenly, the average household bills could become a major drain on your savings without even adding the extra medical expenses.

The answer? A supplement to basic hospital protection that pays benefits to you because you know better than anyone else where the money will do the most good when times get tough. That is what the VFW-Sponsored Hospital Plan does. It pays cash benefits to insured VFW members when hospitalized for covered sickness or injury — which leads to the second major reason for this plan's success.

Even with basic hospital and major medical coverage, you could be responsible for paying a good percentage of that hospital bill

The VFW-Sponsored Group Hospital Benefit Plan provides valuable benefits paid from the very first day of a hospital stay. Members under age 65 can choose up to \$100-a-day, \$3,000-a-month protection. At age 65 and over, members are eligible for \$40 or \$20-a-day; \$1,200 or \$600-a-month. Double benefits are paid for up to eight days in intensive care while under age 65. Plus, spouse and family plans are available. You can choose optional budget plans so every member can have protection at an economical group rate that is easy on the budget.

When you add guaranteed acceptance to these major reasons, you have one of the best plans of its kind — available only to VFW members and their families. Guaranteed acceptance means that no member can be turned down for age, health or occupational reasons. No medical examination is necessary and no health history is required for enrollment.

What's more, this is the only Group Hospital Benefit Plan to meet National Headquarters' high standards for quality, fair pricing and service after-the-sale. It carries the Official VFW Seal of Approval along with the full endorsement and recommendation of National Headquarters.

Every VFW member without this valuable protection should have recently received a free information kit and enrollment form in the mail. If you are not covered yet by the VFW-Sponsored Group Hospital Benefit Plan and did not receive your information kit, simply call Joyce Bradford toll free at 1-800-821-2606, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday. (In Missouri, call collect 816-561-2338.)

National Car Rental System, Inc.

The VFW has endorsed National Car Rental System in addition to the three rental companies mentioned in previous months that are offering special rates to VFW members through the VFW Travel Services. National is one of the world's largest rental systems, with more than 2,500 locations in 101 countries and territories. National offers VFW members a 10% discount off their published rates. For information or reservations call toll free, 1-800-328-4567. (In Minnesota, call 1-800-328-6064; in Alaska or Hawaii, 1-800-328-6321; in Canada, call collect 612-830-2345.) ■

continued from page 8

looking toward the wall.

I stood the vigil from 26 hours straight, talking and spreading the word for our POW/MIAs. I heard stories that were both heartwarming and heartbreaking.

I stood along with a couple of Vietnam veterans from Alabama who stood the vigil for a week prior to Veterans Day weekend. They will place their state flag along the walkway beside the Vigil of Honor. About 30 flags are there now.

The Sunday morning service at Arlington National Cemetery was meaningful and emotional. It was the first Veterans Day when the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers would contain an unknown from Vietnam. I was right up front and able to experience the ceremony, a crushing event. I wear a dog tag around my neck that reads "To all the unknown soldiers who served the United States."

Sunday afternoon, there were hun-

dreds of thousands of veterans everywhere for the dedication of the statue. I had the honor this day of standing the vigil — even during the dedication ceremony, with the sons and daughters of the missing in action in Vietnam. One of the most moving experiences of my life, we were like family, a closeness I can't describe.

I wear a bracelet with the only MIA from Pittsburgh. It is said I will wear this till he is returned. He was reported missing on Jan. 31, 1968, and I truly will.

The weekend was named Salute II American Veterans One and All, and it was a monument in my life. It told me why I came back. — *John Hoffmann, Jr., 122 High St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15223.*

back a lot of memories for me. After reading it, I started looking for souvenirs that I brought back. Sure enough, I still had my small card with the prayer printed on it. I belong to Post 3509 in Wildwood, N.J., and took the card over to show my friends. It made very good conversation. One of the questions that came up was how many of the fellows still have the Christmas card. I was with the 35th Division, 137th Infantry, Cannon Co. at the time in relief of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne. These are just a few lines to tell you we enjoy the VFW Magazine and keep up the good work. Thanks again to Patrick V. Moran.—
Thomas J. Connelly, 1320 Shore Road, Rio Grande, N.J. 08242.

'Patton's Prayer'

I really enjoyed "Patton's Prayer" by Patrick R. Moran (December). It brought

glide upstairs on a STAIR-GLIDE® stairlift



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C L A I M S

AIR FORCE

324th Air Base Svc. Grp., HQ & HQ (Africa, 1943; Italy, 1944)—Seeking anyone who remembers my back condition, esp. Dr. Jesse F. Mardith and Dr. Markley—Earl D. Estes, Rt. 2 Box 109, Noxapater, MS 39346.

191st Bomb. Sqdn., 5th Military, K-14 (Korean War)—Seeking anyone who remembers me being shot near the 38th Parallel.—Jerome (Jerry) Terlitzy, 40 N 11th St., Reading, PA 19061.

ARMY

Americal Div., 164th Inf., Co. B (Cebu, August 1945)—Seeking anyone who knew of my battlefield promotion to squad leader; also Hovis or anyone else in unit at the time.—Albert H. Smith, 208 Washington Ave., Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

101st Abn. Div., 2/502d Inf. Abn., Co. B (Vietnam, July 1968-June 1969)—Seeking anyone in unit who knew me.—David Marrs, POB 33, Coulee Dam, WA 99116

6th Bn., 155 Towed 84th Arty. (Vietnam, 1968-69)—Seeking anyone in unit who knew me.—Floyd E. Warford, POB 175, Eatonton, GA 31021

49th Combat Engr. Bn. (Elsdorf, Germany, March 2, 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers when the luftwaffe bombed and strafed our unit, scoring a direct hit on the Bn CP; three killed, 12 wounded severely.—Gus L. Marinucci, 1322 Jackson St., Hollywood, FL 33019

82d Abn., Womack Hosp. (Ft. Bragg, April 1946)—Seeking anyone who knew of my lower back condition, esp. Drs. Milton Cohen, M.A. Shavitz, Sgt. Jack Brewster, Cpl. Myrie Poorch, anyone in x-ray.—Cleo Kurtz, Rt. 4, Bryan, OH 43506

762d Tank Bn. (Salpan, June 1944)—Seeking anyone who remembers my knee wound.—Dale L. Lee, 7614 W 96th St., Overland Park, KS 66212

69th QM Co. (Khorramshahr, Iran, 1943-44) & 565th Comp. Svc. Co. (Teheran) & HQ & HQ Co., Camp Huokstop (Cairo, Egypt)—Seeking anyone in units, esp. Sgts. William Allen, Benny Dowden, Bob Gregg and Mike Arthofer.—Dan Cucurello, 1096 Sherman Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

4th CA, Btry. M (Taboguilla Island, Panama, 1941-44)—Seeking names and addresses of unit personnel.—Victor Campisi, 20 Cutter Ave., Somerville, MA 02144

MARINES

3d Defense Bn. (Marsterton, New Zealand, 1943)—Seeking anyone in unit, esp. Sam Tilly and Alfred Denton, who may remember serious spinal injury incurred in NZ right after Tulagi, Guadalcanal campaigns.—Arthur B. Harkin, 3508 S 8th Ave #21, Tucson, AZ 85713

NAVY

USS Ganymede (AK 104)—Seeking anyone aboard, esp. Pat Osborn, Ray Smith, Del Blomquist, Curly Schneider, Lefty Merryman and Melvin Howard.—D.L. Burch, 244 Des Moines, Salina, KS 67101

USS Takanis Bay (CVE 89) (Pacific, WW II)—Seeking Harold Sloat (N.J.), other who know of my falling down aft ladder and later operated on by ship's doctor.—T.W. Young, 407 Heather St., Englewood, OH 45322

Task Force 58, 3d Fleet (Coast of Japan, 1945)—Seeking anyone who now has symptoms of radiation exposure and possibly not aware: ionized radiation cataracts, skin eruptions, loss of hair, thyroid problems, diabetes mellitus, glaucoma & hypertension.—Jack Salling, 6361 Maryland Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90048

USS LST 527 (Sea of Japan, 1951)—Seeking SN Ingolongo (Brooklyn), Illiano (Brooklyn), Cpl. John (Parsons, Kans.) John Thornton (Thomaston, Me.), anyone else who remembers my head injury on way to 20 mm gun crew.—William Strom, 525 N Liberty St., Jacksonville, FL 32202

AMM School, Class 1-48 (NATTC Millington, Tenn., June 24-Oct. 2, 1947)—Sgt. Joe Baldigga, PFC N.H. Benton, both Marines; Navy Otto M. Siegist, Willard Clapper, Ralph Arcouette, Bob Boulder, Roy Birdsong, George Melton, Ricky Shearer, Frank Toner, Clarence Barrier, Thorton Lawyer & Robert Smith.—Rudolph Tahtinen, POB 352, Poplar, WI 53064

SS James Withycombe, Armed Guard Unit (Noumea, New Caledonia, 1943)—Seeking any gun crew member who remembers me being treated for inflamed joints on navy ship docked next to us.—Chester A.M. Williams, 5287 Dauah Rd., Mari-
posa, CA 95338

Base Hospital, Ward 7, Nights, Admiralty Islands (1944-45)—Seeking anyone in unit George E. Earles, 3453 E. Milton, Pasadena, CA 91107

Pearl Harbor (1942)—Seeking pharmacist mate and corpsman who taped up my right foot after a work party on the sunken Arizona.—Sam Pizzo, 290 Ross Rd., Apt. 7, Tallahassee, FL 32304

USS Ostrich (MSCO 29) (Caper Hatteras, August 1955)—Seeking anyone who remembers incident in which I was knocked down on deck during Hurricane Connie and washed into a star board gun mount, severely injuring both knees, esp. Lt. Peterson (XO) and BM3 Jack Seymour.—Harold E. Hunt, Lot 11, 2350 Boykin Rd., Augusta, GA 30906

REUNIONS

All requests for reunion announcements must arrive in the VFW Magazine offices no later than six months prior to the month in which the reunion is to be held to insure timely inclusion in this column. Reunion announcement forms can be obtained by writing VFW Magazine, Reunions Editor, 34th & Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111. This cost-free service to members is limited to a first-come first-published basis one time per year.

AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

May

462d Ftr. Sqdn., 506th Ftr. Grp. (Iwo Jima)—17-19, Dayton, Ohio—E.F. Bahlhorn, 7485 Center Pkwy., Sacramento, CA 95823

474th Ftr. Grp. Assn. (WW II)—16-19, Las Vegas—Robert Hanson, Ste. 226, 7515 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55426

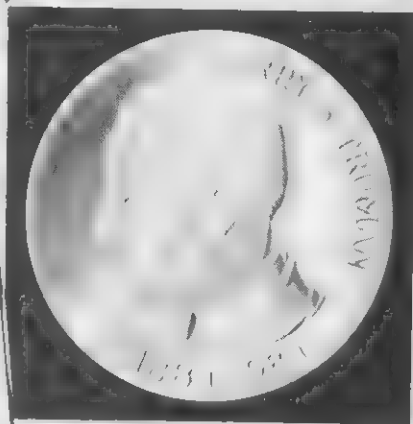
586th Bomb. Sqdn., 394th Bomb. Grp. (WW II)—23-26, Asheville, N.C.—Jim McHugh, 717 Lams Ct., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056



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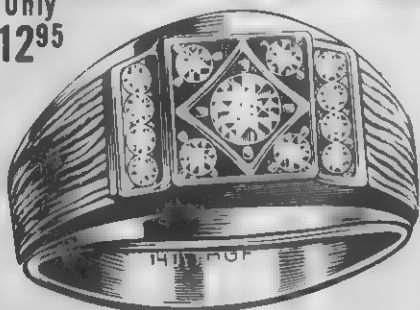
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REUNIONS

July

3d SAD (Watton, England: WW II) & 31st Air Depot Grp, all units (Hill Field, 1942-43) — 18-20, Salt Lake City — W.S. Noble, 7266 Goodwood, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

7th Bomb. Grp., 9th, 11th, 22d & 88th Sqdns. (Hamilton, Salt Lake, Java & Middle East) — 25-27, Seattle — H.M. Wade, 4870 Neskowin Ave. NW, Portland, OR 97229

31st Repair Sqdn. (Hill Field, North Africa, Italy, 1942-45) — 18-20, Salt Lake City — Alex Boggio, POB 357, South Pasadena, CA 91030

49th Ftr. Sqdn., 14th Ftr. Grp. (WW II) — 19-21, Great Falls, Mont. — Sheril Huff, 3200 Cherwood Dr., Del City, OK 73115

64th Airdrome Sqdn., Ord. Section (WW II) — 6-8 — Ray Griffiths, 15 Circle Dr., Alibion, PA 16401

64th Svc. Sqdn., 49th Svc. Grp. & 457th Sub Depot & 859th Air Engr. Sqdn., 433d Air Svc. Grp. attached to 95th Bomb. Grp. (Station 119 Horham, Suffolk, England, 1942-45) — 24-28, Seattle — Adam Hinojos, POB 372, Lemoore, CA 93245

95th Bomb. Grp. (H) — 24-28, Seattle — M.J. Steele, 8754 Dallas St., La Mesa, CA 92041

See Advertisement Inside Front Cover

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100th Bomb. Grp. and supporting units (WW II) — 25-28, Dayton, Ohio — Ray E. Miller, 1619, E Siebenthaler, Dayton, OH 45414

463d Bomb. Grp. (H) (Foggia, Italy, WW II) — Seattle — Howard Green, 602 Eunice St., Sequim, WA 98382

487th Bomb. Grp. (H) (WW II) — 25-28, Seattle — Norbert Riegel, 409 N 3d St., Lompoc, CA 93436

August

14th AF Assn. — 29-Sept. 1, Tuscon, Ariz. — Eddie Chesin, POB 17898, Tuscon, AZ 85731

75th Air Depot Wing (Texas, Korea, Japan, 1952-56) — Dayton, Ohio — Kenneth Brunmeier, POB 181, Onida, SD 57564

783d Bomb. Sqdn., 465th Bomb. Grp. (H) (WW II) — 22-26, Dayton, Ohio — Donald Kay, 2000 Scott Lane, Los Altos, CA 94022

900th Sig. Co. (Depot Avn.) — 9-12, Springfield, Ohio — Emmett McKay, Rt 1 Box 165, Headland, AL 36345

September

4th ARU (Pacific, WW II) — Anaheim, Calif. — Stanley Barnett, 4361 E Mission Blvd., No 144 (Montclair), Pomona, CA 91766

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REUNIONS

64th Sqdn., 57th Grp. (WW II)—6-8, Colorado Springs, Colo.—Tom Tilley, 1638 Collins Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918

65th Sqdn., 57th Grp. (WW II)—6-8, Colorado Springs, Colo.—L.C. Spencer, 521 Thoreau St., Smyrna, GA 30080

66th Sqdn., 57th Grp. (WW II)—6-8, Colorado Springs, Colo.—Daryl Benson, 1608 Jamaica, Aurora, CO 80010

82d Ftr. Grp., HQ, 95th, 96th & 97th Sqdns. (WW II)—19-22, San Antonio, TX 78216

461st Bomb. Grp. (1943-45)—12-14, Colorado Springs, Colo.—Bill Harrison, 6681 NW 6th Ct., Margate, FL 33063

530th Ftr. Sqdn. (CBI)—Buddy Adams, 1516 Shirley St., Columbia, SC 29205

Hump Pilots Assn. (CBI)—16-20, Reno, Nev.—Jan Theis, 808 Lester St., Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

October

2d Bomb. Grp. & Wing—10-13, Sacramento, Calif.—Al Anselmo, 1253 El Sur Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

49th, 374th & HQ Air Svc. Sqdns., 36th Air Svc. Grp. (SWPA, WW II)—3-5, St. Louis—Mack Grass, 2236 Kern St., Charlotte, NC 28208

63d & 64th Troop Carrier Sqdns., 403d Troop Carrier Grp.—7-9, Orlando, Fla.—Aron Tobiska, 31 S Holland St., Lakewood, CO 80226

69th Ftr. Sqdn., 58th Ftr. Grp.—18-22, Valdosta, Ga.—Bob Humphreys, 5712 Rockhill Rd., Ft Worth, TX 76112

94th Bomb. Grp.—Washington, D.C.—R.H. Voss, 4351 Balboa Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76133

403d Troop Carrier Grp., 63d, 64th, 65th & 66th Sqdns.—6-9, Orlando, Fla.—George Knight, POB 1256, Wildwood, FL 32785

454th Bomb. Grp. (Italy, WW II)—San Antonio, Texas—Ralph Brandstetter, 3765 Holland St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

ALL BRANCHES

May

World Assembly to Commemorate 40 Years Since the Defeat of Nazi Germany and Its Satellites—5-9, Israel—Jewish War Veterans, 1811 R St. NW, Washington, DC 20009

July

China-Burma-India Veterans Assn.—22-24, Boston—Reg Jones, 4000 24th St., St. Petersburg, FL 33714

Penn. Pearl Harbor Survivors Assn.—12-14, Bethlehem, Pa.—Richard Schimmel, 32 S Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104

South Pacific Veterans Assn.—4-7, Pockport, Me.—Al Bonney, POB 26, Brunswick, ME 04011

August

Philippine Veterans—14-20, Cebu, P.I.—George Stewart, POB 495, Tonganoxie, KS 66806

September

Ardmore Army Air Field (WW II)—19-21, Ardmore, Okla.—Hamilton Post, 998 Locust Ave., Washington, PA 15301

November

Las Vegas Flexible Gunnery School (1941-45)—Henry Honsa, 18750 Hare Creek Terrace Rd., Ft. Bragg, CA 95437

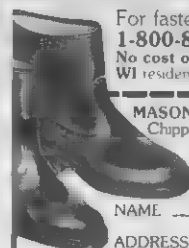
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REUNIONS

Army

March

939th FA, Btry. A—29-31, Trenton, Mich.—Thomas Cramer, 2110 3d St., Trenton, MI 48183.

April

90th CA (AA) Rgt., 90th AAA Gun Bn., 897th AAA AW Bn., 334th AAA S/L Bn. and successor units officers and warrants (WW II)—12-13, Savannah, Ga.—Bob Hayden, 37 Shellburne Dr., Wilmington, DE 19803.

May

2d Armd. Div., 17th Engr. Bn., Co. A—16-18, Asheville, N.C.—Willard Curtis, 110 S. Revena, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

54th QM Base Depot—24-26, Washington, D.C.—Bill Siegrist, 4 Camillo Dr., Wayne, NJ 07470.

76th Gen. Hosp.—18-19, Des Moines—Knut Oppedahl, 1111 5th Ave. SW, Humboldt, IA 50548.

188th Ord. Bn., HQ & Med. Det—15-16, Garlinburg, Tenn.—Harry Howell, POB 457, Weaverville, NC 28787.

456th AAA AW Bn. Btry. B—16-19, Durham, N.C.—Clifford Durham, Rte. 3 Box 300, Durham, NC 27713.

557th AAA Bn. Assn.—17-18, Hagerstown, Md.—Louis Edell, 2904 Oakcrest Ave., Baltimore, MD 21234.

614th Ord. Ammo. Co.—4, Lancaster, Pa.—Robert Eby, 534 E Roseville Rd., Lancaster, PA 15601.

632d TD Bn., Co. A—2-4, Lancaster, Pa.—Duane Ridgway, POB 118, Greensboro, PA 15338.

June

2d Cml. Mortar Bn.—7-8—C.E. Jeffries, 1314 A.E. Derry Rd., Hershey, PA 17033.

6th Div., 1st Inf., Co. I—15—H.T. Regan, 484 Florence Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119.

66th Inf. Div.—24-30, Denver—Bob Hesse, 26 E Curtis St., Linden, NJ 07036.

191st FA, Btry. A (WW II)—1, Winchester, Tenn.—W.F. Williams, POB 215, Cowan, TN 37318.

436th Sig. Bn. Avn. (WW II)—5-6, Kearney, Neb.—Ron Rehnberg, Rte. 4, Holdrege, NE.

441st Engr.—13-15, Cheektowaga, N.Y.—Zehon Czarniak, 2000 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14211.

543d EB & SR Co. C—20-22, Hampton, Va.—K. Kellogg, 43 Brandon Rd., Newport News, VA 23601.

753d Railroad Shop Bn. (WW II)—14-16, Bucyrus, Ohio—Ray Tittle, Rt. 1, 2512 Old Lake Rd., Huron, OH 44839.

754th FA Bn., Btry. B—21-22, Joliet, Ill.—R.A. Smith, POB 27, Wilmington, IL 60481.

860th Engr. Avn. Bn.—13-16, Traverse City, Mich.—William Raubolt, POB 272, Bear Lake, MI 49614.

989th Engr. Treadway Bridge Co.—2, Salina, Kans.—Arnold Okeson, Box 136, Weskan, KS 67762.

3516 Ord. MM Co., 1st Engr. Spec. Bde.—21-22—J.R. Neely, 411 Grafton St., Beckley, WV.

July

37th Combat Engrs. Bn. (WW II)—New Philadelphia, Ohio—William Metzger, 849 4th St. SE, New Philadelphia, OH 44663.

39th AAA HQ Grp.—5-7, Lafayette, Ind.—Al Potts, 3879 S Orchard Ct., Lafayette, IN 47905.

REUNIONS

40th Div., 160th Med. Tank Co. (Korea, 1951-53)—11-14, Denver—Forrest Heaton, Rt. 1, Cory, IN 47846.

42d Inf. Div.—10-14, West Palm Beach, Fla.—Phil Trout, 4121 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560.

52d Engr. (WW II)—6, Warsaw, Ind.—Ralph Konkle, 502 S Morton St., Warsaw, IN 46580

65th Sig. Bn.—25-27—Troy Spear, POB 8, Burkesville, KY 42717.

75th Inf. Div.—4-6, Valley Forge, Pa.—James Warmouth, 6545 W 11th, Indianapolis, IN 46224.

79th Inf. Div., 904th FA Bn.—4-7, Phoenix—Bob Garrison, 10749 W Hayward Ave., Glendale, AZ 85307.

80th Div. Veterans Assn.—31-Aug. 3, Nashville—Price Carney, 733 Richfield Dr., Nashville, TN 37205.

91st Inf. Div.—25-27, Seattle—Willis Diercks, 376 Cannon View Dr., Red Wing, MN 55066

99th Inf. Div. Assn.—17-20, Milwaukee—Byron Rousseau, 1400 Dousman St., Green Bay, WI 54303.

108th Rgt., Co. C—12-14, Syracuse, N.Y.—A.J. Sforzo, RD #1 Box 170A, Vernon, NY 13476

210th Gen. Hosp. (Ft. Dix & Panama, WW II)—27, Boiling Springs, Pa.—Lowell Dean, 185 Central Ave., Westerville, OH 43081.

640th QM Laundry Co.—Knoxville, Tenn.—Charlie Mills, 405 W Glenwood St., Knoxville, TN 37917.

692d TD Bn.—19-21, Paris, Ky.—Don Crawford, RD 2 Box 108, Millville, PA 17846

746th AAA Gun Bn. (WW II)—12-14, Indianapolis—George Stewart, POB 495, Tonganoxie, KS 66086

749th AAA Gun Bn.—26-27, Portland, Me.—Albert Longone, 25 Shrine Ave., W Boylston, MA 01583.

755th Railway Shop Bn.—25-27, Bucyrus, Ohio—Eugene Perry, Sr., 6093 Leetohia Rd., Leetohia, OH 44431.

975th FA Bn., HQ Btry.—26-28, Winthrop, Minn.—Les Weber, POB 495, Winthrop, MN 55396

1061st Engr. PC & R—12-13, Rome, Ga.—Pete Harch, 114 Melray Rd. SW, Cave Springs, GA 30124.

August

5th Armd. Div. Assn.—8-10, St. Louis, Mo.—Mrs. Claire Watrous, 8549 Lowell St., St. Louis, MO 63147.

24th Inf. Div., 5th RCT, 6th Tank Bn., 26th AAA Bn., 24th Avn. Co.—15-17, Louisville—Lee List, 115 Ronald Rd., East Peoria, IL 61611.

36th Inf. Div. Assn.—29-Sept. 1, Houston—Leonard Wilkerson, POB 2049, Malakoff, TX 75148.

36th Inf. Div., 144th Inf.—29-Sept. 1, Houston—Archie Stewart, 3102 Quakertown, San Antonio, TX 78230.

36th Inf. Div., 143d Inf.—29-Sept. 1, Houston—Bob Nowell, 1200 Clover Lane, Longview, TX 75602.

37th Inf. Div., 129th Inf., Co. A—Monroe City, Mo.—Russell Smith, Rt. 1, Monroe City, MO 63456.

37th Inf. Div., 148th Inf., Co. A—3-4, Antwerp, Ohio—Robert Greek, POB 107, Montpelier, OH 43543.

112th Cav.—10-11, Dallas—Claude Rigsby, Rt. 1 Box 156S, Chandler, TX 75758.

156th Inf., Co. F (WW II)—27-29, Brainerd, Minn.—Eugene Nicklowske, 545 SE 11th St., Owatonna, MN 55060.

158th RCT—29-31, Phoenix—Bushmaster Registry, POB 5558, Phoenix, AZ 85010

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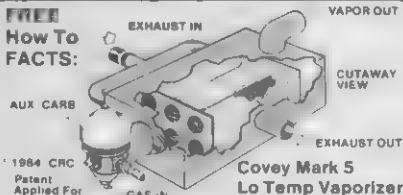
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R E U N I O N S

195th FA Bn. (WW II)—2-4, Coffeyville, Kans.—George Elliott, 1317 W 5th, Coffeyville, KS 67337.

315th Inf. Rgt. Assn. (WW II)—30-Sept. 2, Flint, Mich.—Francis Oczko, 114 6th St. N, New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

357th AA S/L Bn.—16-18—Wilmer Jens, 1913 David Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

456th Pch. FA Bn. (WW II)—14-17, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.—Herman Alley, 111 Ivanhoe Ln., Brownwood, TX 78601.

508th Pch. Inf. Rgt. (WW II)—30-Sept. 1, Los Angeles, Mich.—Jim Allardice, 335 Ardussi St., Frankenmuth, MI 48734.

513th Engr. Lt. Pontoon Co. (1942-45)—9-11, Peoria, Ill.—Willford Farley, RR 2 Box 77, Bradford, IL 61421.

531st AAA AW Bn.—Kansas City, Mo.—Ed Herman, 602 4th St NE, Montgomery, MN 56069.

602d Engr. Camouflage Bn. (WW II)—2-3—C. Bitters, 1128 Neville Ave., Green Bay, WI 54303.

656th & 771st TD Bns.—Avon Lake, Ohio—R.A. Wolter, 2674 Akron Wadworth Rd., Barber-ton, OH 44203.

711th Tk. Bn., Co. C (Philippines, Okinawa, WW II)—9-11, Omaha—Marvin Pilfold, POB 61, Weeping Water, NE 68463.

726th ROB Assn.—16-18, El Paso—Jacob Schroeder, 5220 Mora Dr., El Paso, TX 79932.

1256th (C) Engr. Bn. (ETO, WW II)—Medina, Ohio—Frank Zajac, 3158 159th St., Cleveland, OH 44111

September

8th Div. Arty. (Germany, 1956-59)—12-15, Colorado Springs, Colo.—Charles Smink, 507 Echo Ln., Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

10th Armd. Div. Veterans Assn.—Cherry Hill, N.J.—James Revell, 10433 SW 99th Terr., Miami, FL 33176.

50th AAA AW Bn. (SP) (Korean War)—20-22, Sandusky, Ohio—Gene Ross, 532 Race St., Clyde, OH 43410.

83d Inf. Div. Assn. (WW II)—9-11, South Fallsburg, N.Y.—Robert Derickson, 3749 Stahlheber Rd., Hamilton, OH

91st Cav. Rcn. Sqdn.—Las Vegas—J. Kovalick, 6137 Connecticut St., Merrillville, IN 46410.

151st Inf. Assn. (WW I, WW II & Vietnam)—21-22, Anderson, Ind.—Lee Lortz, 5607 Columbus Ave., Anderson, IN 46013.

648th TD Bn.—26-29, Fond du Lac, Wis.—Max Magyar, Rt. 5 Rogersville Rd., Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

815th Engr. (Avn.) Bn. (WW II)—22-25, Peoria, Ill.—Ray Owen, 725 E Pine St., Canton, IL 61520.

October

25th Inf. Div. Assn.—3-6, Tampa—Robert Muzzy, 809 Forston Dr., Takoma Park, MD 20912.

101st Radio Research Co. (Vietnam)—4-6, Myrtle Beach, S.C.—Paige Sawyer, 416 Highmarker St., Georgetown, SC 29440.

147th FA Rgt. (WW II)—11-12, Ft. Ord, Calif.—Joe Kelly, 715 N Washington St., Aberdeen, SD 57401.

361st Engr. (SS) Rgt. Assn.—24-26, St. Petersburg, Fla.—John Zirafi, 92 Morris Ave., Girard, OH 44420.

761st MP Bn. (Alaska, WW II)—19-20, Sacramento, Calif.—George Fiene, 5800 Mark Twain Ave., Sacramento, CA 95820.

REUNIONS

Horse Soldiers—Fr. Riley, Kans.—Lowell Drummond, 5704 45th Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

August 1986

187th Paraglider Inf. Rgt., 1st Bn., HQ Co. (Feb. 1943-Jan. 1946)—Arkville, N.Y.—Joe Curran, POB 374, Arkville, NY 12406.

COAST GUARD

September

USCGC Mohawk (WPG78) (1934-48)—7-8—Robert Broadway, 1500 Lakewood Dr., Wilmington, DE 19803.

October

SPARS (WW II)—4-6, Portland, Ore.—Hoppi Bryan, 6436 SE 21st Ave., Portland, OR 97202.

MARINES

April

6th Marine Div. Assn.—11-14, Parris Island, S.C.—George Booz, 125 6th St. N, Safety Harbor, FL 33572.

May

27th Marines, 1st Bn., Co. A—11-12, Lonoke, Ark.—J.E. Justice, Rte. 1 Box 323, Lonoke, AR 72806.

July

4th Marine Div. Assn.—3-6, Seattle—Fred Thaut, 810 5th St., Snohomish, WA 98290.

August

USMCR, 4th Inf. Bn., Co. B (Korean War)—23-24, Duluth, Minn.—Ed McKeever, 1120 N 11th Ave. E, Duluth, MN 55805.

NAVY

April

1st NCB—25-27, St. Louis—Charles Mischler, 29 Sanford Ave., Emerson, NJ 07630.

USS Buckley (DD 808)—16-19, Charlotte, S.C.—Charles Black, POB 1301, Little Rock, AR 72203.

USS Laffey (DD 724)—14-19, Charlotte, S.C.—Tom Fern, POB 319, Agawam, MA 01001.

USS Luce (DD 522)—16-19, Charlotte, S.C.—J.C. Phillips, 2521 SE 60th, Ocala, FL 32671.

USS Weehawken (CM12) (WW II)—26-27, Lake Buena Vista, Fla.—Bud Peach, 14 Dolphin Dr., Tavares, FL 32778.

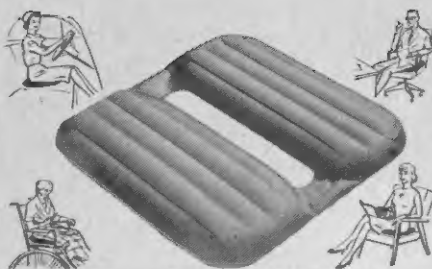
VP 29 (Whidbey Is. & Kodiak, 1948-49) & VPB 116 (Pacific, 1945-46)—25-28, Washington, D.C.—Philip Smith, FMC, Ste. 11502, 1100 L St., Washington, DC 20573.

May

1st Beach Bn. (WW II)—1-4, Port Arthur, Texas—Edwin Roberts, 219 Hardy Ave., Nederland, TX 77627.

Naval Reunion 85 (1910-1985)—3-5, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada—Naval Reunion 85, POB 2067, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 3R4 Canada.

USS Block (CVE 21), USS Ahrens (DE 575), USS Buckley (DE 51), USS Barr (DE 5776), USS Eugene E. Elmore (DE 686), USS Robert I. Paine (DE 578) & VC 55—May 30-June 2, Las Vegas—USS Block Island Assn., 4991 Merrill Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89120.



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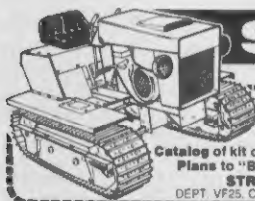
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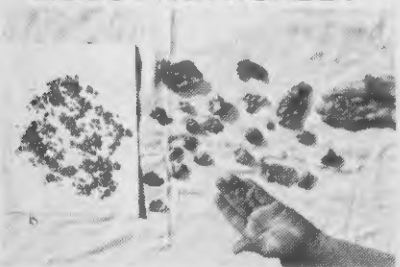
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R E U N I O N S

USS Jenkins (DD 447)—10-12, West Covina, Calif.—V.H. Martin, 25620 Oak St., Lomita, CA 90717.

USS Somers (DE 381)—17-19, Lehigh Acres, Fla.—Paul J. Gries, 508 N Richmond Ave., Lehigh Acres, FL 33936.

□June

USS LSM 117 (WW II)—13-15, Arlington, Va.—Theodore Volding, 120 N 7th St., Rochelle, IL 61068.

USS Reno—21-23, St. Louis, Mo.—Louis Trebino, Jr., 343 Dairy Rd., Auburn, CA 95603.

USS Texas (BB 35)—28-30, Bushkill, Pa.—Vincent Mossucco, 27 Barnett St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

□July

115th NCB (WW II)—25-28, Flint, Mich.—Edward Plummer, 5023 E Naomi St., Indianapolis, IN 46203.

Patrol Squadron Seven (VP 119, VP ML 7) (Jacksonville, Fla., 1944-69)—Bill Lally, 6160 Arlington Expressway, Jacksonville, FL 32211.

USS Converse (DD 509)—3-7, Portland, Me.—Andy Foscatto, 50 Nance Rd., West Orange, NJ 07052.

USS McDermut (DD 677)—12-14, Philadelphia—John Dinger, 911 Temple Dr., Raleigh, NC 27609.

USS Picking (DD 685) (WW II)—10-14, Buffalo, N.Y.—William Ruprecht, 10021 Manoa Ave., Cleveland, OH 44144.

USS Serene (AM300)—25-28, Seattle—E. Twichell, 1772 Isabel Dr., San Jose, CA 95125.

USS Soley (DD 707)—Kansas City, Mo.—Jim Treaster, 4313 S Union, Independence, MO 64055.

□August

USS Balao (SS 285)—11-18, Portland, Ore.—Merrill Edson, 9720 Waters Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98118.

USS Captivate (AM 156)—14-18, Downers Grove, Ill.—H.W. McPherson, 5732 S Washington St., Downers Grove, IL 60516.

USS Cotten (DD 699) (WW II & Korea)—8-11, Nashville—Walter Shollmier, 1828 Parnassus, Memphis, TN 38108.

USS Guavina (SS 362)—14-19, Portland, Ore.—Vic Radwick, 8529 Lime Rick Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91304.

USS LST 907 (WW II)—16-17, Cincinnati—Philip Altieri, 386 Wyoming Ave., Fairfield, OH 45014.

USS Manchester (CL 83)—1-4, Manchester, N.H.—Frank Helfenberger, 12012 Meridian Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98133.

USS Petro (SS 265)—14-19, Portland, Ore.—Robert McCoy, 12524 Ave. V-10, POB 304, Pear Blossom, CA 93553.

USS Sullivans (DD 537) (1943-65)—23-25, Buffalo, N.Y.—Robert Sander, 325 Thatcher Ave., River Forest, IL 60305.

USS Trigger (SS 237)—14-18, Portland, Ore.—Paul Olson, RR 1 Box 52, Cambridge, IL 61238.

□September

2d Beach Bn.—6-8, Indianapolis—Walter Bryant, 7620 E 50th St., Indianapolis, IN 46226.

Fasron 118 (1955-60)—13-15, Kansas City, Mo.—W.J. Kuhn, 3605 NE 48th St., Kansas City, MO 64119.

Naval Airship Assn.—26-28, Moffett Field, Calif.—John Williams, 17 17th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121.

Patrol Bombing Squadron 26—20-26, Corning, N.Y.—Robert Moreiko, RD 8 Box 594, Binghamton, NY 13904.

U.S. Naval Cryptologic Veterans Assn.—1-3, Baltimore—Ric Heckhaus, 13012 Magellan Ave., Rockville, MD 20853.

USS Alcor (AR 10/AD 34) (WW II)—19-21, Norfolk, Va.—Lloyd Belperain, 145 Lafayette Ave., Norfolk, VA 23503.

USS Attu (CVE 102)—19-21, San Francisco—Wilbur Cheney, 608 W Ave. J9, Lancaster, CA 93534.

USS Boise (CL-47)—18-22, Boston—Martin Gaffey, 29 Swain Ave., Meriden, CT 06450.

USS Cabot (CVL 28)—5-8, Williamsburg, Va.—Ray Miller, 318 Milan Pl., Anaheim, CA 92801.

USS Card (CVE 11/VC 1-9-12-55)—Seattle—Joe Macchia, Rt. 3 Box 3315, Melrose, FL 32666.

USS Chicago (CA 29/CA 136/CG 11)—12-15, Colorado Springs, Colo.—Rex McDonald, 1660 Grand Ave., Cannon City, CO 81212.

USS Concord (CL 10)—18-21—G.A. Wolfe, 1021 Michigan Ave., Kenner, LA 70062.

USS Cushing (DD 376/797/985)—25-27, Reno—D.A. Henning, POB 73, Wellington, NV 89444.

USS Dobbin (AD 3), USS Dewey, USS Hull, USS MacDonough, USS Phelps & USS Worden (Dec. 7, 1941)—12-15, St. Louis—Clarence Rudd, 506 NE Franklin, Bend, OR 97701.

USS Dunlap (DD 384)—6-8, Indianapolis—Edward Littlefield, 3860 S Higuera St. #176, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

USS Harris (APA 2)—Charleston, S.C.—Robert Griffin, 7 Golf Dr., Georgetown, S.C. 29440.

USS Kimberly (DD 521)—Chicago—Arthur Forster, 2312 Nela Ave., Orlando, FL 32809.

USS Rainier (AE 5) (1941-46)—5-7, Springfield, Mo.—Leon Barefield, 2537 Howard, Springfield, MO 65803.

USS Richard M. Rowell (DE 403)—27-29, Arlington, Va.—Victor Pittman, Rt. 3 Box 205, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

USS Summer (DD 692), USS Moale (DD 693), USS Cooper (DD 695), VPB 34, USS Orca (AVP 49), USS LST 464 and support units (Battle of Ormoc Bay, Leyte, P.I., Dec. 1944)—19-22—Warren Begley, 609 Newark Ave., Elizabeth, NJ 07208.

□October

70th NCB Dets. 578, 579, 1005 & 1006—4-6, Shreveport, La.—Gordon Rawson, POB 123, Houston, LA 71043.

78th NCB (WW II)—18-20, Gulfport, Miss.—Ken Kelly, POB 194, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

Salvage Divers trained at Pier 88, N.Y.—17-19—Leo Ely, 129 Long Branch, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

USS Ellyson (DD 454/DMS 19)—11-13, Charleston, S.C.—James Galbreth, 8927 Carriage Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46256.

USS Nashville (CL 43)—2-4, Orlando—A.B. Speed, 13229 Des Moines Way S, Seattle, WA 98168.

USS Sigourney (DD 643) (WW II)—12-14, Pocono Mtns., Pa.—John Forkin, 3805 Review Pl., Bronx, NY 10463.

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"It certainly is," said the customer admiringly, "and you tell it well too."

—Quote

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—Quote

Reincarnation

They were discussing reincarnation and the husband said, "You mean if I die I come back as something else?" The wife said that was right.

"Do I get a choice?" the husband asked. "I mean is it possible for a big man like me to come back as a skunk?"

"Don't worry, dear — you're never the same thing twice."

—Funny Funny World

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"No, why should he? I do all the driving," she replied.

—Quote

Worth

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—Quote



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